

Hudson

Past and Present

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HUDSON
PAST AND PRESENT

... BY
E. F. WORCESTER.

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❧ ❧ By Way of Introduction. ❧ ❧

"Our citizens of Hudson have not only shown by their thrift that they have been stirring business men, but their public records show that they have been active as townsmen in preparing everything for a prosperous municipal corporation."

These words of the Hon. Charles Hudson in his address in 1876, will hold equally true to-day, as evidenced by the energy and personal sacrifices of our towns-people in the trying times following the holocaust of July 4, 1894, resulting in the birth of a new town, and the turning of a public calamity into the means for accomplishing in months what might have taken years by the usual process of a town's development.

Hudsonians are rightly and unanimously proud of their town, and the purpose of this volume is to preserve in a handy form the memories of the "town that was," that we, as well as future generations may in part realize the rapid strides made by her energetic people: to gather between the covers of this book what has heretofore been scattered among many families, and to save from loss scenes of which possibly but one copy has been preserved.

The lasting monuments of buildings now standing on the "burnt district" tell but little to the "stranger within our gates" of the sacrifices necessary to bring the town to its present condition, and it is only by a comparison that we can realize what has been done in five short years. *Verba volant, Scripta manent.* Words are fleeting, what is written remains.

The author acknowledges his indebtedness for valued assistance rendered by the many citizens who have responded to the call for photographs and bits of history, and whose aid has made the production of the book possible

E. J. Hunter



HON. CHARLES HUDSON.

Born Nov. 14, 1795.

Died May 4, 1881.

❧ Hudson Past and Present. ❧



Washington Street Bridge.

HUDSON'S HISTORY may reasonably be said to have been divided into a story of an old and a new town by the disastrous fire of July 4, 1894, when the heart of the business district was almost wholly destroyed, and as the town in its earliest days, then known only as a plantation, had its beginning on the banks of the river near the present Washington Street Bridge, so fate decreed that the starting point of the fire, which was the first step towards a re-creation, should be but a few feet away.

Barely three quarters of a century had elapsed after the landing of the Pilgrims, when one John Barnes obtained a grant of one acre of land lying on both sides of the Assabet river, upon the north side of which was erected a grist mill in 1699. Historians differ as to the builder of this mill, which was the first to be erected on territory now Hudson, but the place was commonly known as Howe's Mills, and the first recorded transfer of real estate is this acre of land and the mill about 1700, to one Joseph Howe, who is supposed by many to have been the builder.

This land, as well as that surrounding it, was included in the bounds of the town of Marlboro, and the early history of this portion of the town is so interwoven with that of the whole that an accurate separation is often difficult.

The first settlers were mainly farmers, and as there was then no other mill nearer than Sudbury, they naturally brought their corn here for grinding. This led to more settlements, but progress was slow on account of the desire of the settlers to preserve the place as a farming community.

Soon after the building of the mill, the town of Marlboro, Oct. 2, 1699, voted to build a bridge across the Assabet at Howe's Mills.

One of the first houses was built by Jeremiah Barstow on land now contained in Wood Square, and ten years later was sold to Robert Barnard, the locality afterwards being known as Barnard's Mills.

The first public house was opened in 1794 by Joel Cranston, who also kept a store. The first store, however, was in what



The Old Red House.

land now occupied by Dunn, Green & Co., and the business has been carried on almost uninterruptedly up to the present time.

The dawn of the nineteenth century saw many new industries springing into existence, among them saddle and harness making, wool carding and cloth dressing.

was afterwards known as the "Old Red House," antedating the Revolution, and which stood on land now occupied by Mr. R. B. Lewis' baick block. Its large door and many-paned windows show its ancient style. Previous to this time Phineas Sawyer and Jedediah Wood built a saw mill on the brook crossing Main street now known as the Tannery brook, and in 1788 another mill was built upon the Assabet.

As early as 1790, a blacksmith shop was in operation on the present Washington street, the building being afterwards moved back from the street to the bank of the river, where it stood when destroyed in the great fire, having been occupied over one hundred years as a smithy.

Silas Felton came in 1799, joining Cranston in business, and soon after the village commenced to be called Feltonville.

A tannery was started in 1799 on nearly the same

The Witt House was built in 1797 and moved to River street, where it now stands, in 1863; the Manson House being then erected on same spot.



Pope House.



Witt House.

The Pope House was built in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and stood on land now occupied by residence of R. B. Lewis. Parts of it were removed and are still standing.

In 1808, Phineas Sawyer built a factory known as the Marlboro Sabinet Factory, which business he carried on until Jan. 1, 1820, when he lost his life. The water wheel which supplied his power was stopped with ice, which he proceeded to cut away, stepping on the wheel in so doing: the wheel when released commenced to revolve, carrying Mr Sawyer down with it, and he was soon drowned. This factory was burned in 1834.

The first physician came to town in 1809, and lived in the "Old Peters House," which stood on land now partially occupied by Chamberlain's block.

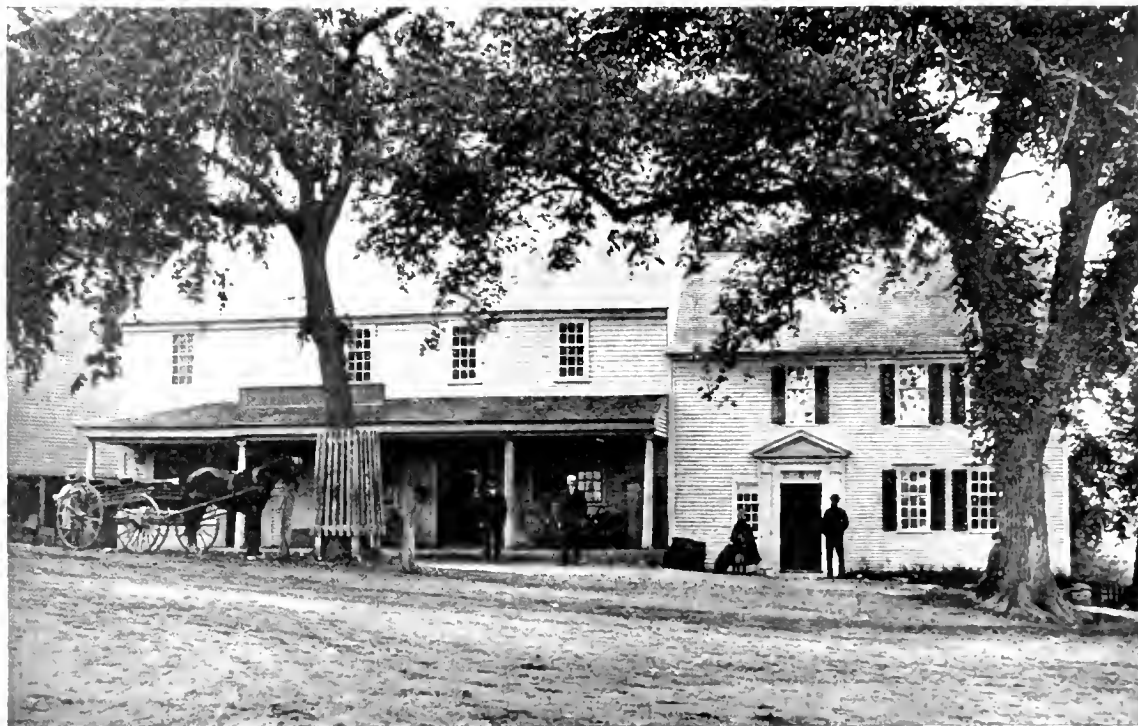
The year 1812, momentous as it was in our country's history, seems to have been a busy one for builders in Hudson. Several new houses were erected, among them the Worcester house on Central street.

A school house was built this year, and probably established a record for speed in building which has rarely been excelled in town, certainly not in the erection of school houses. The voters from this village succeeded in getting a vote passed for this school house, which would undoubtedly have been rescinded at an adjourned session had not the people taken hold, felled and hewn the timber, and erected the building, so that before the date of adjournment was reached the building was complete and ready for occupancy.

Among the first scholars attending this school, which was on Washington street where Everett street now runs, was Charles Hudson, who lived to see the village grow to a township and bear his name, an honor which was a well-earned tribute to his character and example.



Old Peters House, built in 1794.



"Peters' Store."

Negative by R. B. Lewis 1877

Occupied for business August 13, 1871. First Post Office located here in 1828. Building destroyed in 2004 fire.



The Felton House.

The Felton House was built 1803 and was a familiar landmark for many years until replaced by the large brick block of H. W. Chase. This building was occupied by Joel Cranston for some time and known as Cranston's Hotel, also used by Colonel Stuart as a tavern.

The hall in the upper story of the ell was used by the Baptists for meetings, also for dramatic and local entertainments by various organizations.

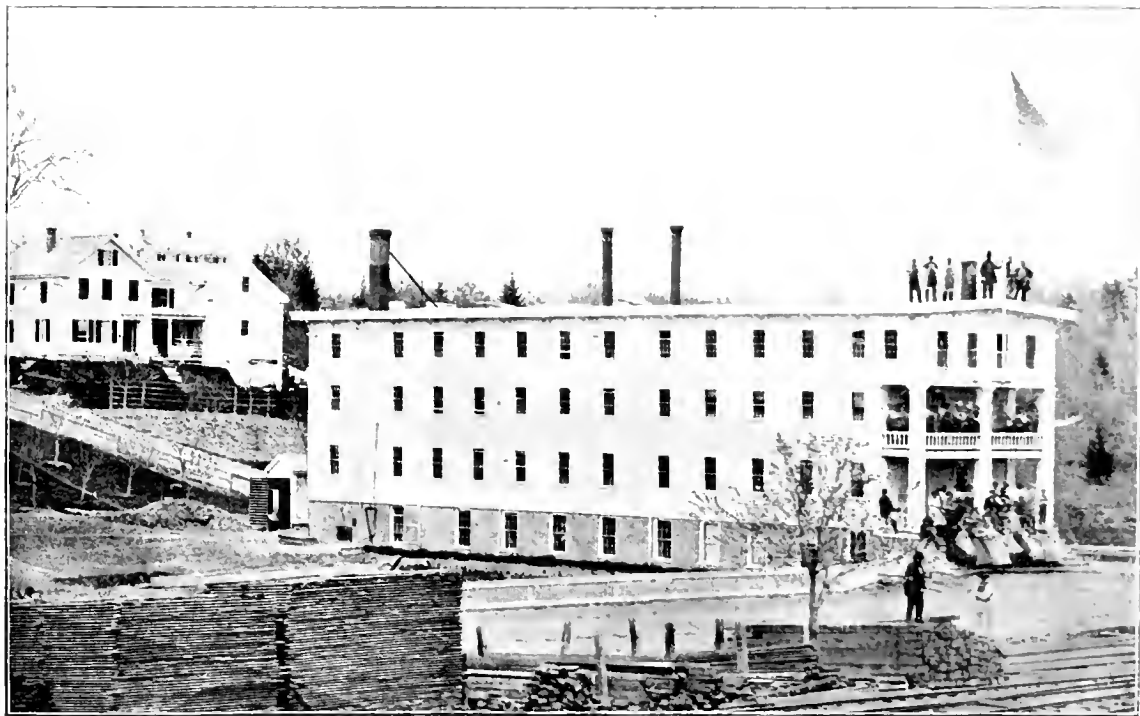
The belief "in farms rather than in towns" still impeded the growth of the community, but small manufacturing was gradually introduced, and the population increased as there became a demand for their labor.

The foundation of the shoe-making industry may be said to have been laid by Daniel Stratton, who as early as 1816, started in business. He built a factory about 1821 on Washington street, when there were

still but few dwelling houses and one store at the "Mills," and business was necessarily done on a small scale. Here he employed four hands and continued the business a few years, selling it to his son Lorenzo, who in turn sold to William Brigham, and the name of Brigham has been actively identified with our leading industry continually since this time.

Francis Brigham, the head of the firm of F. Brigham & Co. at the time of his death, learned his trade in this factory, afterwards moving to a building which stood just off Main street, then to a brick building standing on site of present Holden's Block.

In 1847, the building commonly known as the "Co-operative Store," was built and the shoe business moved there and continued to grow.



George Houghton's First Shoe Factory, Corner of Main and High Streets.

The firm of Stowe, Bills & Hawley commenced in 1854.

In 1857, George Houghton built a shoe factory at the corner of Main and High streets sixty feet long, three stories high with a basement, which he enlarged the following year to one hundred feet in length, at this time an unheard-of size, giving rise to many dire predictions of failure and the like.



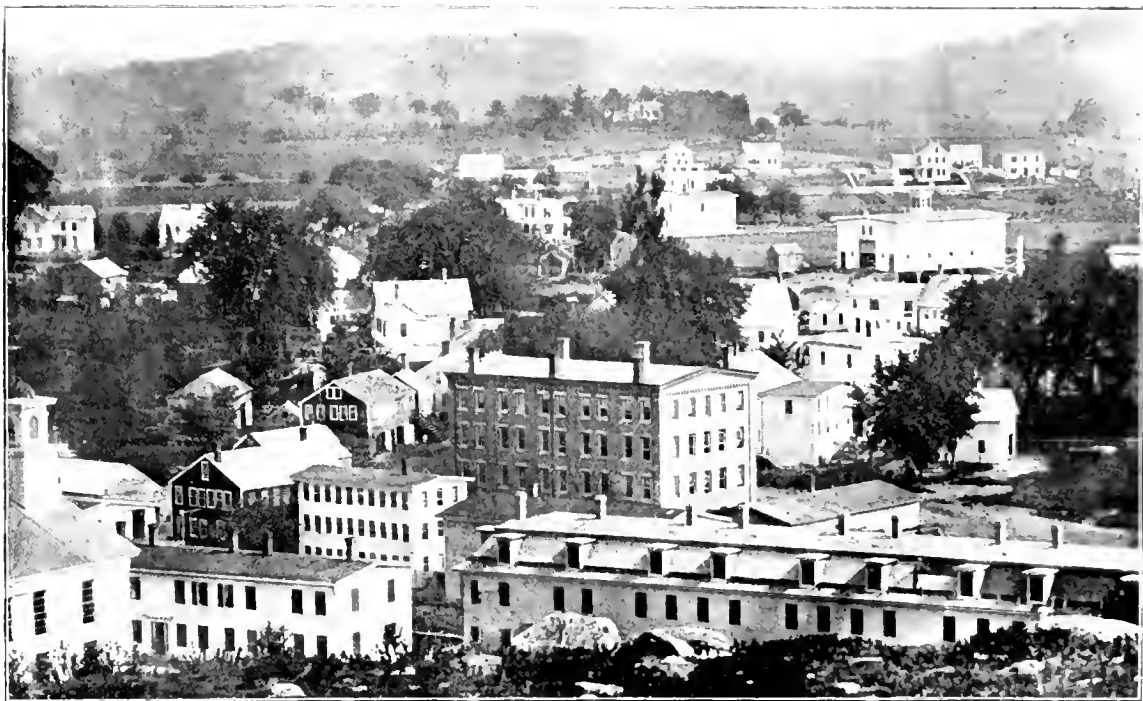
Atkinson House. Built 1860. Destroyed in Great Fire, 1894.

The first steam engine ever used in the limits of Marlboro, was run in this building, a 5-horse power upright one.

The foundation of a large and profitable shoe business was here established. This building was moved in 1863 to form an ell to the present Main street factory, a part of the front portion having been used as a station by the Fitchburg Railroad. Sixty feet were added and a French roof put on over the whole.

The same year, 1857, the brick factory of F. Brigham & Co. was built and the shoe business was rapidly becoming of large proportions. Luman T. Jefts began business in 1859. The amount of business done made a demand for factories to supply the lasts,

dies and machinery, and we find these springing into existence together with a box factory, the latter being first founded about 1844, on site of the present box factory, where had previously been located a cider brandy distillery, which business at one time assumed large proportions, more apples being brought in than could be handled.

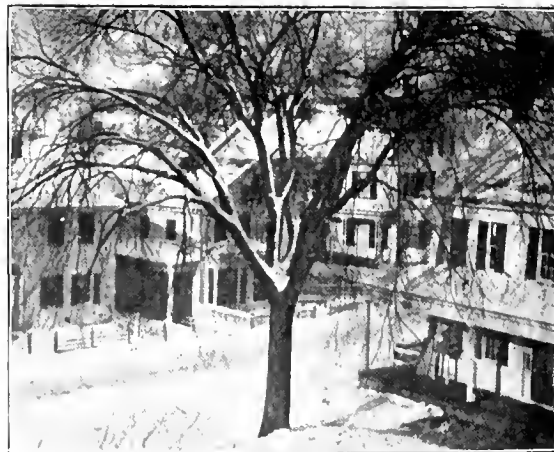


View from Pope's Hill 1892.

At the beginning of the Civil War the existing military formations in the state were altered somewhat, and men from this vicinity were enlisted in several different regiments, which early went to the front for a three years' service.



Looking down Main Street.



West Side of Wood Square.

The following year, May, 1862, another company of Volunteers was organized in Feltonville, of which the late Lieut. Col. W. E. C. Worcester was the first captain. This company was lettered I, of the Fifth Regiment, and did active service in many of the battles of that war. This company, although credited to the parent town, was principally recruited from this village, a part of its membership coming from neighboring localities.



View from Pope's Hill.—1862. The Tannery Buildings are at the extreme right

The picture on this page shows the buildings formerly standing on the north side of Wood Square, the one on the right was afterwards the shoe factory of L. Stratton and still later turned around when Felton street was laid out. The building next stood where the street now runs. This building was moved to site of present Sherman House, where it was burned. The cut also shows the end of the "Old Red House" and corner of Solon Wood's store.



A "seven-in-hand" in Wood Square. (From an old tin-type.)

In connection with the shoe business it may be interesting to notice the following two advertisements which appeared in the local paper, as showing that the present department stores are hardly more diversified in their stock than were some of our early factories. These are reproduced almost exactly as the originals appeared:

F. BRIGHAM & CO.,
Manufacturers of
WOMEN'S and CHILDREN'S BOOTEEES,
and Dealers in Choice Family Flour. Hudson

W. M. L. TROWBRIDGE,
Manufacturer of
MEN'S, MISSES and CHILDREN'S BALMO-
RALS, Buff, Split, Calf, Pebble, and Goat Boots
and Shoes, and Dealer in Family Flour.
Wood Square, Hudson.

During all this period since the first settlement, the village, now rapidly growing, was still but a part of the town of Marlboro, and although the apportionment of town officers was such that no complaint could be made by the residents of Feltonville, yet the inconvenience of going four miles to attend town meeting began to excite public sentiment, which the local newspaper voiced in several articles. The outcome of this agitation was a call for a public meeting of all the citizens in Union Hall, Tuesday evening, May 16, 1865. This meeting was largely attended and the question of incorporation thoroughly discussed. The sentiment was pretty generally in favor of the movement which also developed the fact that many of the citizens of Berlin and Bolton desired to have the sections of their towns lying next the proposed new town annexed to it. This naturally gave rise to objections from the towns interested, which complicated matters somewhat.

For some reason the first meeting was adjourned without any action being taken and a meeting called the following Tuesday, at which these resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, we the inhabitants of Feltonville and vicinity, believing that the time has arrived when it will be for our best interests and welfare to withdraw from our respective municipal corporations and be incorporated into a new town: therefore,

RESOLVED, that a committee of nine be appointed to take into consideration the subject of establishing the boundary lines of said new town and the most feasible way of drawing up the petition for that purpose, and that they be instructed to procure such legal advice as they may deem necessary on the subject, and report at some future meeting to be called by them."

The committee attended to the duty assigned and the citizens determined upon the boundary lines as recommended by the committee, petitions being drawn in accordance with the same, several slight changes having been made to include



Shoe Factory of L. Stratton.

outlying farms. A new committee of five was then chosen to make arrangements for incorporation.

When the question of a name came up for consideration two propositions were offered, one by Silas Felton offering \$1,000 should the name of Felton be selected, the other from Hon. Charles Hudson who agreed to donate \$500 for the foundation of a Free Public Library should the name of Hudson be given the new town. It has not, we believe, been quite clear why the latter proposition was accepted, but such was the case.

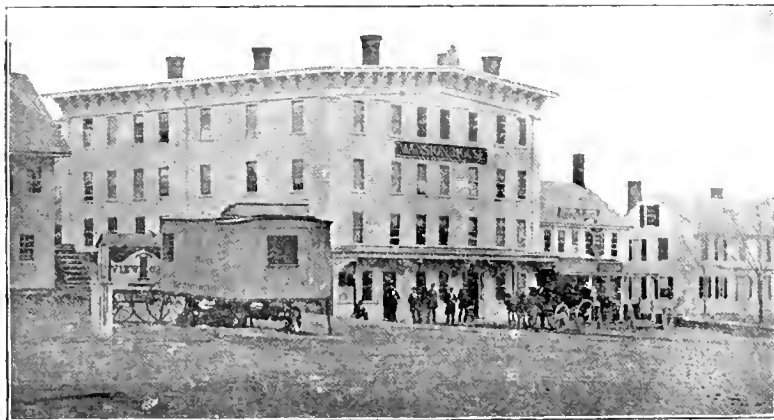
The burden of the work rested on this new committee and it is a fact pointed to with pride that although in the face of much opposition, no lobby was employed or unlawful means attempted in attaining the desired result.

After much legal controversy, the act incorporating the new town of Hudson, was passed March 16, 1866.

James T. Joslin, Esq., who was counsel for the town, closed his able plea in these words:

"If incorporated, I believe that the town of Hudson at no distant day will become a town that shall do honor to Middlesex County, do honor to the towns from which she is taken and will remember them in return for what they may each have done for her."

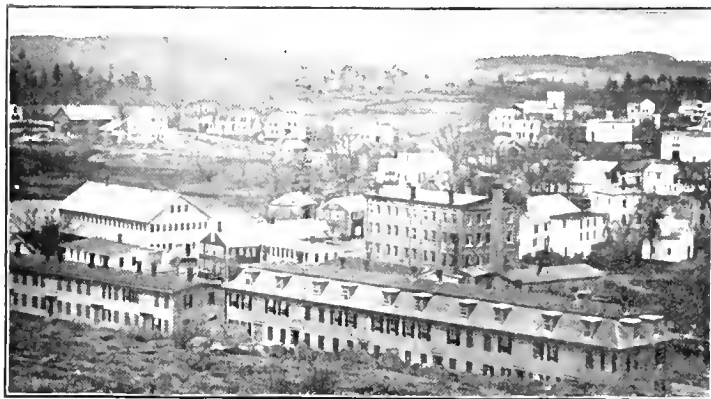
The town then had 306 voters. March 20, 1868, the town bounds as they now exist were determined upon, taking in a part of the town of Bolton.



Mansion House. Built 1843. Remodelled 1856.



Burned July 4, 1874—Hudson's first disastrous fire



Views from Pope's Hill.

erection. When this building was completed it had a large hall in the upper story in which was held a dedication dance, at which nearly every citizen of the town was mentioned as an aid. This hall was used as an armory, dance hall, etc.

The lower story was first used as a grist mill.

The first view shown on this page was taken in 1863, showing Central street before it was re-located; also the blacksmith shop previous to its being moved.

The second view, taken about 1866, shows the Trowbridge factory completed, and the wooden shoe factory of F. Brigham & Co. in process of





E.M. STOWE'S
FACTORY



GEO. HOUGHTON'S FACTORY LOOKING WEST



GEO. HOUGHTON'S FACTORY LOOKING EAST



SOUTH FROM WOOD SQUARE



The Wood House on Washington street, now the property of the First Unitarian Society.



Joel Cummings, a familiar figure to older residents, of the town and his "store" on Felton street.



Up Main Street about 1870 from in front of Town House Lawn.

The shoe business was further increased in 1865 by the building of the four story wooden shoe factory of W. F. Trowbridge, where his business was transferred and enlarged.



The First Decoration Day, 1869.

steady healthy growth, an enlargement of business already established, and additions of several new industries of a varied character, such as give the town stability and a guarantee of continued prosperity.

After the close of the Civil War, appropriate exercises were held May 30, 1869, the speaking being from the piazza of this factory, the local band furnishing music for the occasion. The day has since been annually observed, the town making an appropriation for the expenses of the same, used under direction of Post No. 9, G. A. R., named Reno in honor of General Reno.

Many local organizations have from time to time assisted the Post in their services.

Money has been twice raised for the building of a Soldiers' Monument, which owing to complications, has not been accomplished, but a Memorial Building is contemplated, which will be a welcome addition to our public buildings, and a just tribute to the men who sacrificed their lives for their country.

Since this time there has been a



The East End from Pope's Hill.—1872.

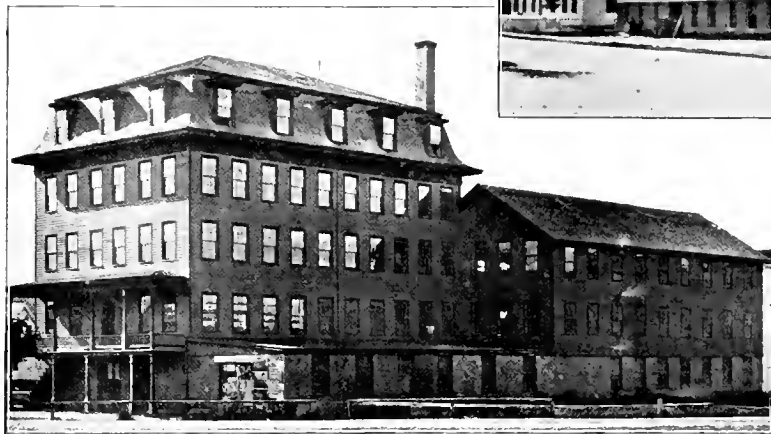
The building owned by F. S. Dawes and occupied partially by his die shop and by Bradley & Sayward, was built on made land, filled in to the Tannery Pond, the fence formerly running along its edge being shown on page 21, in the picture entitled "George Houghton's Factory, looking east." This



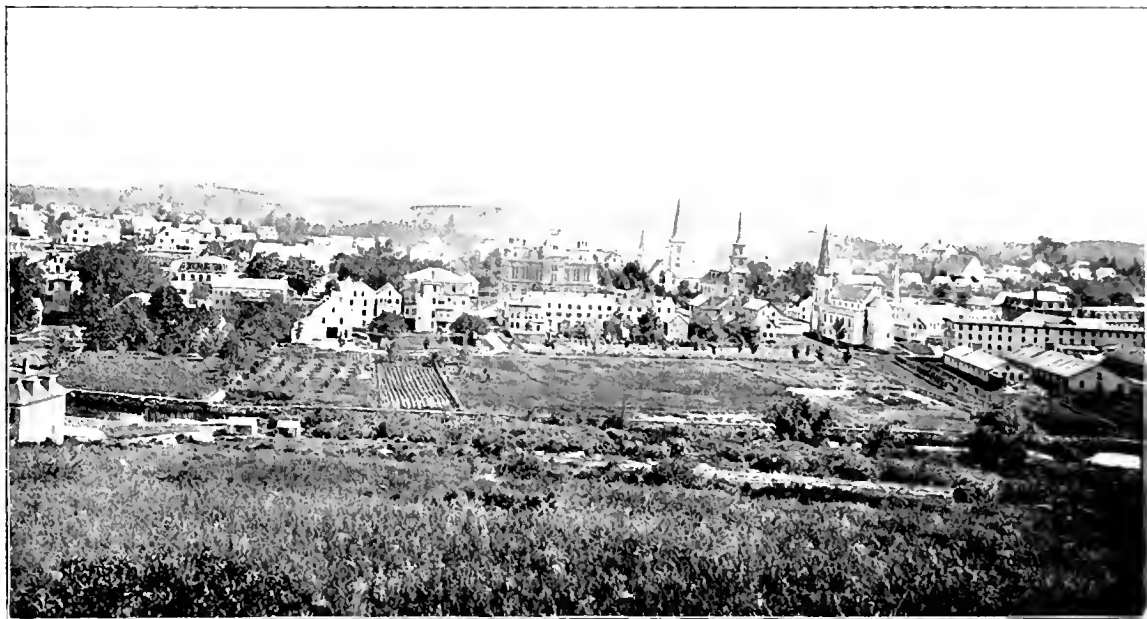
L. T. Jeffs' Shoe Factory, 1870.

building was the scene of a fire which good work of the firemen alone prevented from being disastrous.

The electric light station was formerly located in the engine room of the shop.

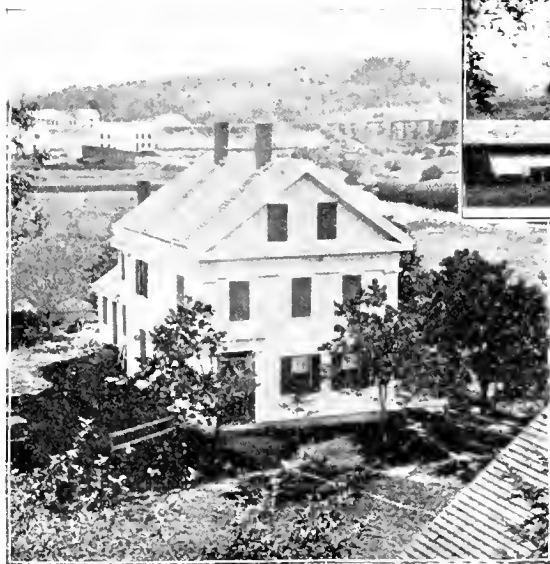


Bradley's Shop, 1870.

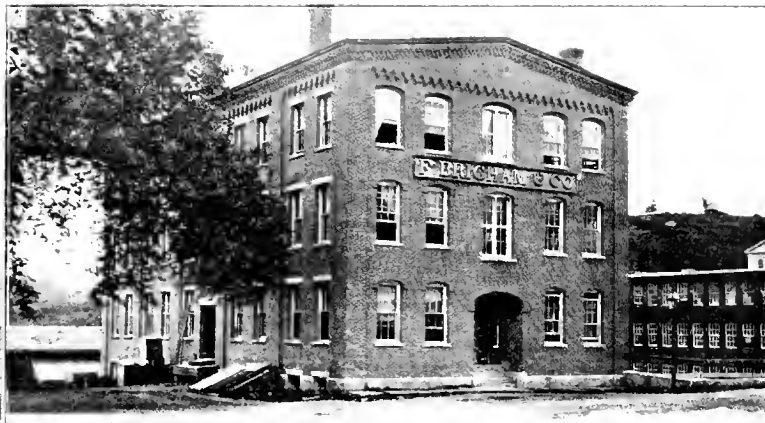


The Centre of the Town from Pope's Hill,—1870.

The burning of the Brick Shop, so called, in 1882 which totally destroyed the building, caused a considerable inconvenience to the shoe business of F. Brigham & Co., but the firm made use of the

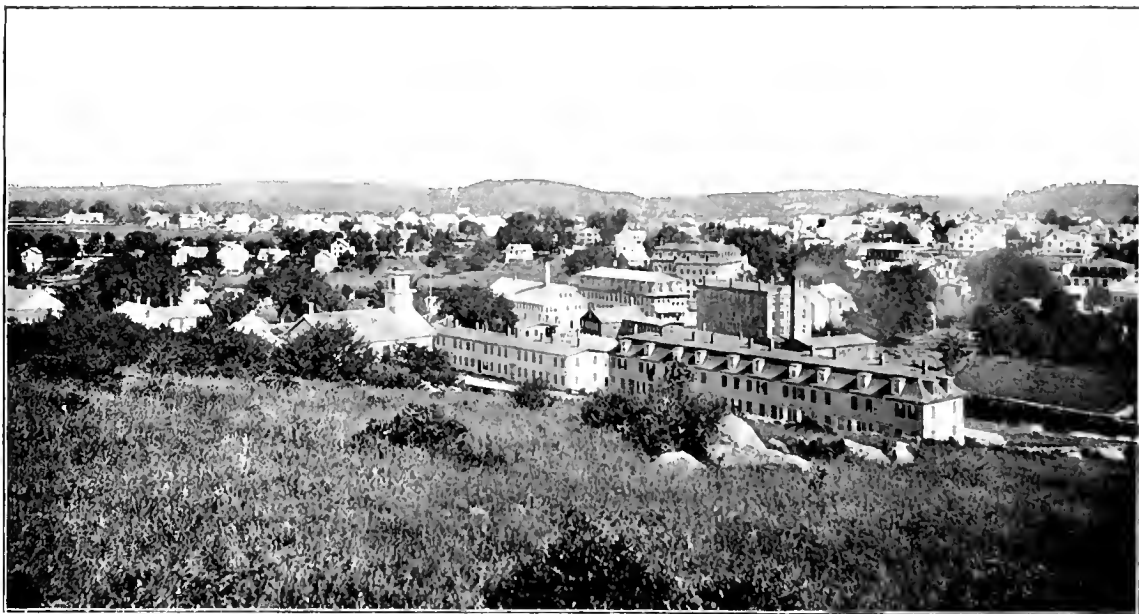


Residence of R. H. Brigham. Destroyed in Great Fire.



Factory of F. Brigham & Co. Built 1857. Burned 1882.

buildings on the south side of the river, which they continued to occupy until they leased their present factory soon after the great fire. The building they now use was built by the Hudson Real Estate Co. for H. H. Mawhinney & Co., who, on leaving town, sub-leased it to this firm.



The West End from Pope's Hill. 1870.



Store of Solon Wood & Co, 1870.

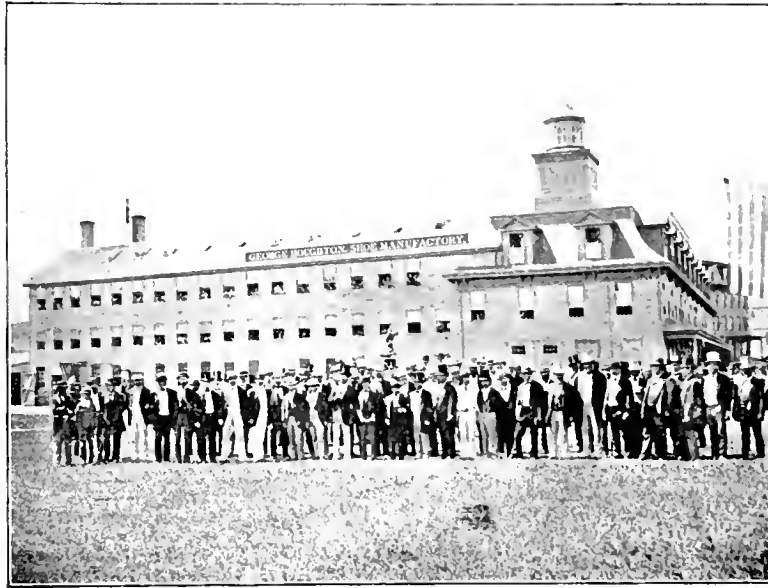
shown on this page were destroyed in the great fire. Lewis Block and Prescott Building now occupy the locations shown in the second picture. Pythian Hall occupied the upper story of Lewis Block when burned. The Hudson Pioneer was for a long time published in the furthest building shown in the picture.

Solon Wood's store occupied the centre of the square, on site of one of the first buildings built in this vicinity, the building being several times remodelled and enlarged. The land it occupied was purchased by the town for \$10,000 soon after the fire. All the buildings



Lewis Block and the R. Stratton Building.

In August, 1872, the Japanese Embassy paid a visit of inspection to Hudson, under guidance of a committee from the Boston Shoe and Leather Exchange. These gentlemen were native Japanese sent by their government to investigate



The visit of the Japanese Embassy, 1872.

the various manufactures in this country, and it was a compliment of the highest kind that they should be brought here. The processes of tanning were thoroughly examined, and they were then taken through the Houghton Shoe Factory, it being considered a model factory at that time. A pleasing part of the program was the making of several pairs of shoes for the visitors during their progress through the shop, they watching the several operations as the work progressed. The finished shoes were taken as souvenirs by the visitors, who expressed themselves as "highly delighted and instructed."

The picture shows the Embassy in the centre of the group.

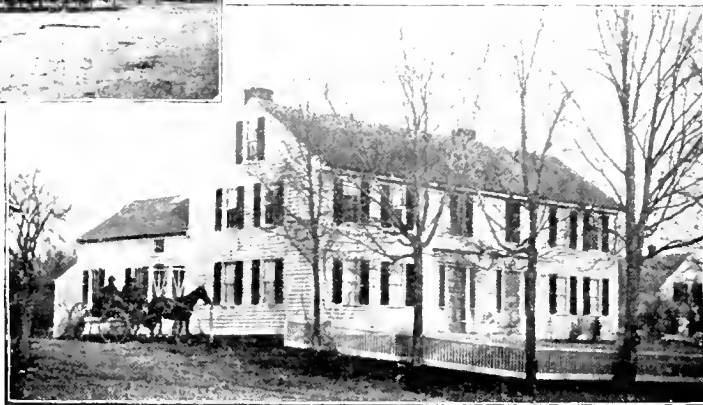
The land lying east of the factory and forming the corner of Main and Broad streets, was preserved by Mr. Houghton for a number of years as a park, in the centre of which was a handsome fountain.

The lot is now covered by business blocks, and extensive alterations are being planned for the old factory building



Mansion House and Holden's Block, 1870. Both destroyed in Great Fire, 1894.

The George Stratton House stood at the corner of Pope street, on spot now occupied by the Savings Bank Block. This building was blown up to prevent further progress of the great fire.



The George Stratton House. Built 1834.

The Mansion House, remodelled from Cox's Tavern, stood on site of Solon Wood's new block and was prominent among the old buildings before the fire. It was built upon a solid ledge of rock which underlies all the buildings on the north side of Wood Square.

The rapid advance in photographic processes has made the production of this book possible, and we are enabled to reproduce among the historic pictures of Hudson a view which may well be called a "milestone of photography." Probably no photograph has ever been given a wider distribution or attracted more nearly universal attention than the one called "Morning Glories." Its production in 1874, and its exhibition at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, was a marvel of photographic success and even at that time deemed an impossibility. This picture was photographed by the old "wet process" long before the "snap shot" period had dawned, by the veteran Hudson artist, Mr. R. B. Lewis, and his success in securing perfect likenesses of so many children in one group was first looked upon by many artists as a clever trick rather than an actual photograph. The sale of over 18,000 copies in two years attests its popularity; copies being purchased by many European photographers who were exhibiting at Philadelphia.



"Morning Glories."

(Negative by Lewis)

Hudson was represented in the 250th anniversary procession in the city of Boston, in 1880, by a novel exhibit from the Hudson factory of Martin, Skinner & Fay, then managed by our late townsman, George Houghton, consisting of two floats, representing the old and new in shoe-making.



"The Log Cabin Shoe Shop," Exhibit in 250th Anniversary Procession in Boston.

The first float, under date of 1630, being a log cabin with a settler's family busily engaged in making shoes by hand, the only method then known. This made a realistic picture of ye olden time: the stealthy red-skin, without, also bringing to mind the hardships encountered by our early ancestors; and the great open fire-place and spinning wheel added to the picture of what had been the condition of a leading industry of the state.

The cobbler's stone was a necessary article for every workman, even in the first shoe factories, so called, as each man produced the whole shoe, the present system being then unknown. With the exception of the date this exhibit was a true picture of "Hudson, Past," a condition which was improved upon in this locality by manufacturers as rapidly as

machines were invented to supercede the old hand methods. The factories of the present day in Hudson are keeping at the head in improved machinery in all departments of the industry.

The second float, under date of 1880, was a fully equipped modern shoe factory, every machine necessary for the production of a shoe was included and in running order, power being supplied by a small upright engine, which the picture shows. This was not a toy factory, but shoes were actually produced along the route of the procession, and the exhibit was one of the features of the parade, as few, if any, other exhibitors had succeeded in placing on wheels a fully equipped factory supplying its own power.

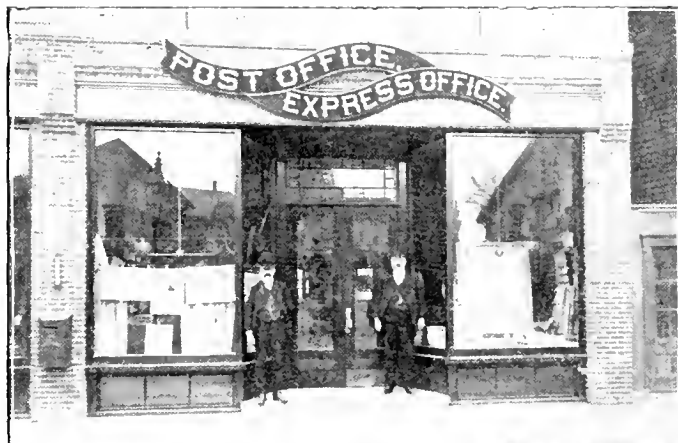
This float, like the one preceding it, was in charge of skilled workmen from the factory, and special mention was made by Boston and local papers of this clever exhibit.

This structure has since been made into a small cottage, and stands on the shore of Gates Pond, the source of our water supply.

This same year, 1880, Hudson's shoe industry was further increased by the occupation of the Piano Shop by Mr. Joseph S. Bradley, who had retired, as did Mr. Trowbridge, from the firm of F. Brigham & Co. The building is the one now occupied by Bradley & Sayward, formerly used by Kaler & Shaw, who resumed business here after their fire in 1874.



"Up-to-date Shoe Making." Exhibit in 250th Anniversary Procession in Boston.



Post Office in Manson's Brick Block.

Brigham's Block was also occupied at various times by the Savings Bank, which was incorporated February 6, 1869, Lewis' Photograph Studio, Law Offices, etc. The third story contained G. A. R. Hall when burned. The old post office building now stands on Warner street; the other buildings shown were all destroyed in the great fire.

The Post Office has remained in nearly the same location since first founded in 1828. With the exception of temporary changes made necessary by the erection of Manson's Block in 1886 and by the great fire of 1894, the office has stood in nearly its present location since about 1850, when it was removed from Brigham's Block, where it was located for some time after leaving the Peters Building.

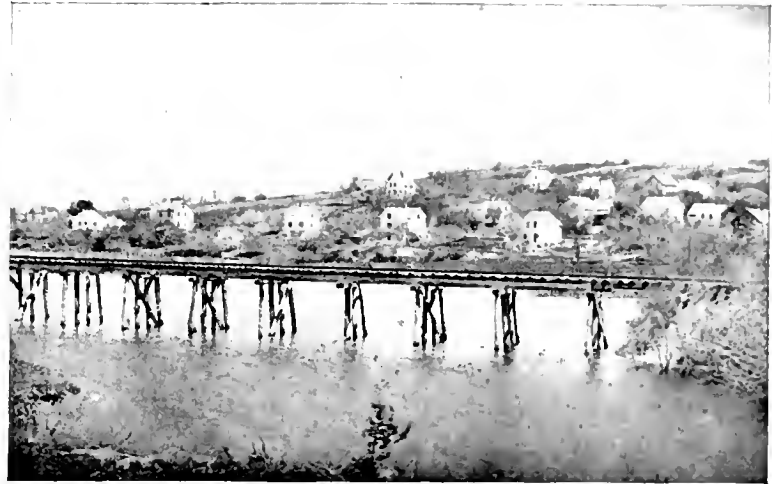


Old Post Office Building and Brigham's, afterwards Cochran's Block.

Early in 1882, several prominent business men instituted a movement which resulted in the organization and chartering of the Hudson National Bank. They commenced business in March, with banking rooms in the quarters now occupied by the Selectmen in the Town House.

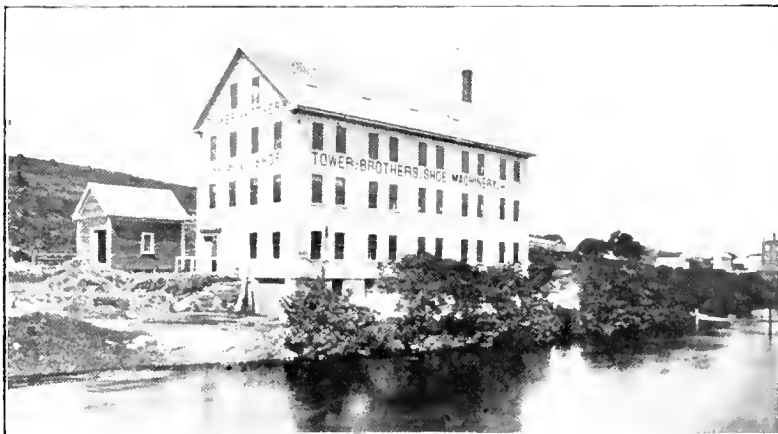
In 1885 a Co-operative Bank was incorporated, giving the town a system of banks which has proved popular with all classes, as the large deposits in each denote.

This year saw, also, the foundation of the present Apsley Rubber Co., commenced by Apsley & Coffin under the title of the Good-year Gossamer Co. These gentlemen began business in the wooden buildings of F. Brigham & Co., now occupied by the Hudson Worsted Co., Novelty Paper Box Co., and the Enterprise Printing Co., which they continued to use until they purchased an extensive tract of land where their buildings now stand, on which they erected substantial brick buildings specially adapted to their use. The diversity of industries is what has given the town a more than average prosperity, and the rubber clothing business has been an important factor in the upbuilding of Hudson.



The Lancaster R. R. Bridge, 1886, showing houses on Maple and Elm Streets.

At the town meeting November 7, 1882, the matter of a system of water works was brought up by an article in the warrant and a vote was passed authorizing the appointment of a committee of fifteen who should take the same into consideration. This committee recommended an appropriation "for a thorough survey and plan for taking water from Gates' Pond, and an estimated cost of constructing the works."

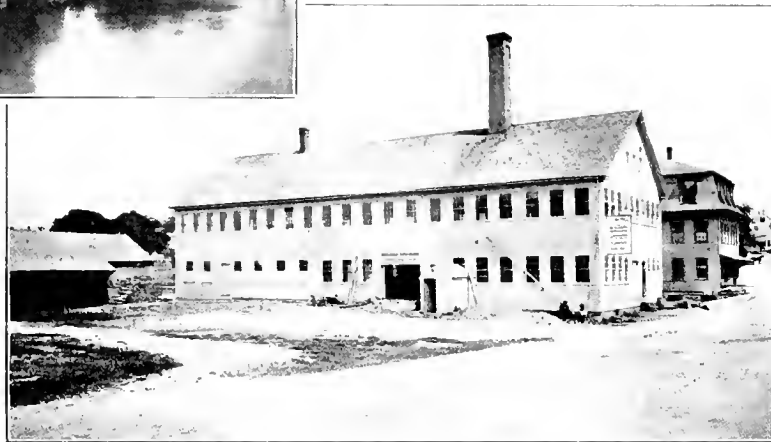


Enlarged to form Shoe Factory of C. M. Brett & Co.

natural fall sufficient to reach the top of nearly every building in town. When completed, 8.2 miles of pipe had been laid, varying in size from 4 to 16 inches. Water was let in from the pond December 16, 1884.

The water is free from contamination, and of the finest quality. A large number of applications for water were received and so popular has been the system that rates are extremely low, and extensions of the water

An appropriation was made in April, 1883, and an act authorizing the taking of water passed the Legislature, and was approved April 25. Gates' Pond, which was selected, lies in the town of Berlin and had at that time an area of about ninety acres, with a natural water shed of one hundred and forty-one acres. The surface of the pond was then 103 feet above the curbing at the Post Office, giving a



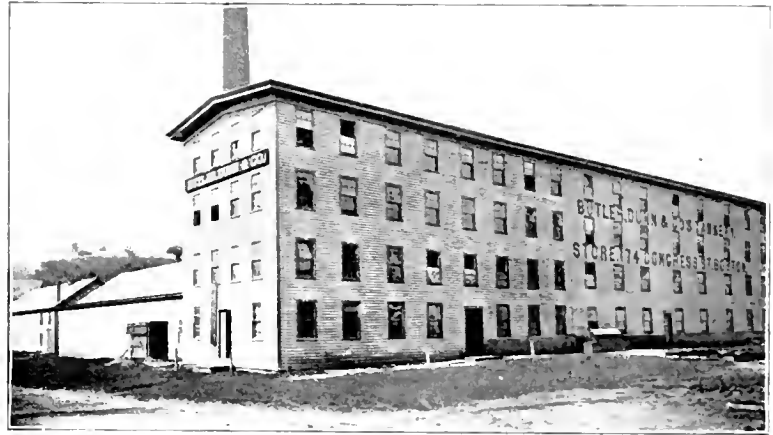
Building now occupied by Hudson Worsted Co., as it appeared in 1870.

main have been frequently necessary. The system now consists of 20.61 miles of pipe of the various sizes, with 235 gates and 137 hydrants. The income, inclusive of hydrant service, was nearly \$10,000 in 1898, water being taken by 1,014 families in addition to business and other uses. The fact that no pumping is required makes the expense of maintenance of the system comparatively light.

In 1898, a new dam was constructed, giving a storage depth of two feet additional and an additional water shed of about twenty acres. An auxiliary pipe line was also laid from the pond running parallel to the first line, except at the pond. This gave a much increased pressure as was proven by the thorough test given the whole system on December 6 of that year.

November 16, 1887, a military company was organized, designated M, and attached to the Fifth Regiment. This company enlisted in the U. S. service for duty in the Spanish war, and while not seeing active service in any of the Spanish countries, was in camp nine months ready for duty. On their return from

the south the company was reorganized, Capt. James P. Clare afterwards enlisting in the 26th U. S. Infantry for duty in the Philippines. The armory, formerly located in the Opera House, is now in the upper story of the Town House. Here the company has a well arranged suite of rooms, a reading room supplied with daily papers and other matter



The Lannery in 1870. The building at the extreme left was used for the Engine House of "Houghton, No. 2." Part of belfry shows in picture.

Hudson was also represented in the navy during the recent war, both at Santiago on the Brooklyn, and at Manila on the flagship of Admiral Dewey.

Many old buildings, dating back a hundred years or more, are still standing in very nearly their original form, but have not been included in the views shown herein. Some, like the Cox house, have been remodelled so that hardly a



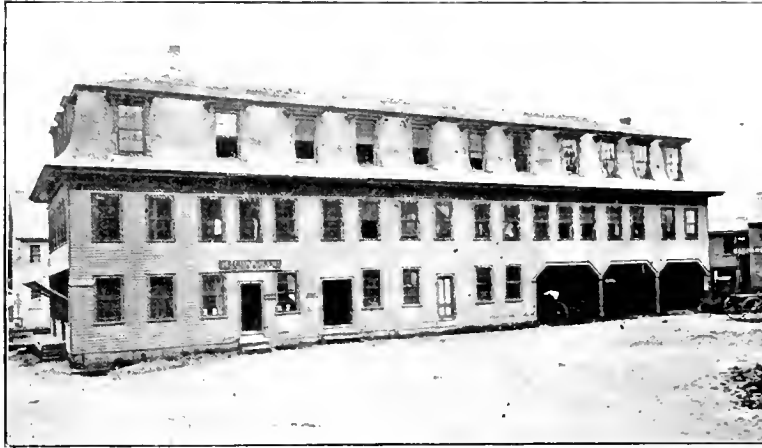
The Willard Cox House.



Residence of F. E. Brown. Built by G. L. Manson, 1864.

suggestion of their former self remains. The frames of most, if not all of them, were hewn from oak, and in many cases boarded with oak or chestnut lumber.

The Witt house shown on page 7, stood on the site of the Brown house. The small house showing through the trees at the right is this house in its present location on River street.

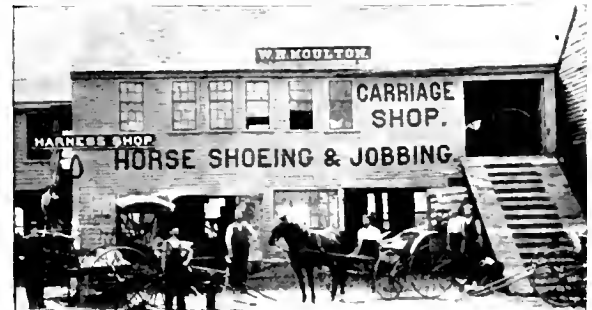


Brigham's Shop, 1870.

the picture of Eureka Hose. When destroyed, the whole factory building was used for the shoe business with the exception of a small store in the first story.

The blacksmith shop here shown is the one formerly standing on the street as early as 1790. This stood next the shed in which the great fire started, and with the shop was totally destroyed

The wooden shoe factory of F. Brigham & Co. stood on the site of Howe's mill, and the lower story was used for a long time as a grist mill by R. H. Brigham; the old mill building formerly occupied by him, shown on page 21, in picture entitled "South from Wood Square," now stands in the rear of Moulton's present blacksmith shop, a portion of it, in its present position, being shown in



One Hundred Years a Smithy

No nearer an ideal National Holiday ever dawned than in 1894, the twentieth anniversary of the first serious fire, the morning of July 4 having been ushered in by the small boys and others, with the usual ceremonies supposed to be necessary to the birth of each new "Fourth." Had all the small boys finished their celebrating with the dawn, this story would probably have to be told in a much different way.

Several small boys, however, continued the celebration in the afternoon with fire-crackers and the like in the rear of the shoe factory of Frank H. Chamberlain, and started the fire which spread with such disastrous results. The town was soon



Residence of F. W. Trowbridge, 2nd.
Destroyed in Great Fire.



The Trowbridge Shop. Starting point of fire.

awakened to the possibilities attending the progress of the fire, which was rapidly eating into the factory in front and spreading to each side, fanned by a strong west wind.

Coming as did the first alarm, when many of the firemen and more of the people were at Riverside Park, the response was not as prompt as usual and the fire had gained a headway too strong to be easily subdued.

Assistance was telegraphed for to many places and a generous response was given. The flames had rapidly spread, impeded for

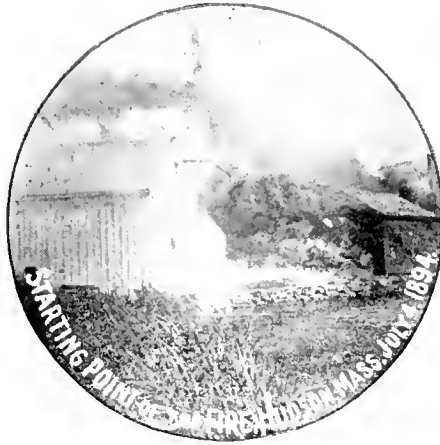
a time by the many trees in the square, but trees and blocks, wooden and brick, melted in the hot breath of the fire fiend. The rapid spread in many cases cut off the firemen from hydrants in use, preventing their being closed, thus lessening the pressure of the water and rendering the fine system of water works almost useless.

Steamers and other fire apparatus rapidly arrived from neighboring places and volunteers industriously pumped the brakes on the old Eureka Engine, which made itself useful on the west side of the square. The George Stratton house was blown up to prevent further progress of the flames in its direction, and the large tin roof on the Underwood Building was fanned like a handkerchief in the air, preventing the flames from entering the Hudson House, which stood next to it. The combined forces of all who could assist seemed hardly sufficient to prevent the destruction of the entire centre of the town. Cinders were carried to a great distance, setting fires which levelled two houses outside the "burnt district" and threatening churches and the town house.



Chase Block in 1870. Afterwards raised one story to contain Odd Fellows' Hall.

The gathering clouds predicted a shower which shortly followed, and the wind, veering to the east, drove the flames back over the vast blackened area of what was once the throbbing business heart of the town, and the progress of the fire was rapidly prevented. Men could not have worked harder on their own homes than did the firemen sent to our aid, and the town owes much to them and our own fire department that more of the town was not destroyed.



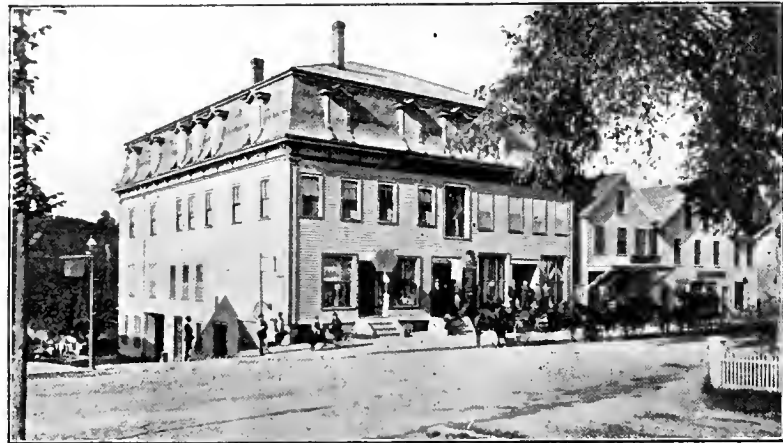
blackened to the roots, with branches bare, and served as about the only guides to show where once had stood the buildings they had so vainly endeavored to shelter.

Here and there, among the ruins, were solitary figures pouring streams of water on the smoking mass, and most conspicuous of all, among the landmarks still standing, was the Old Elm, marking the extreme western end of the burnt district.

The ladies did good service in furnishing food for the workers, scouring the town for provisions and coffee, which was served in the vestry of the Unitarian Church. The militia was called out for guard duty and prevented the destruction and carrying away of property that had been saved.

Nearly forty buildings were destroyed, covering an area of over 5 acres and representing a loss of fully a half million dollars, all of which had been accomplished in less than three hours. The night was vivid with the smouldering fire and nearly all the old landmarks had vanished forever.

The few trees that had withstood the fierce heat, loomed up in the darkness,



Hudson House, 1870. The Underwood Building next marked the edge of the burnt district on the east.



Main Street just previous to the great fire of July 4, 1894.

Negative by R. B. Lewis

Next morning that magnificent old elm was standing as it had stood almost a century through, a silent sentinel, itself a wreck amid a scene of desolation no picture can fully portray: a part of the "Hudson that was" in ruins around, it seemed emblematic of the fortitude which has characterized the town and its people.



The burnt district from roof of building of F. Brigham & Co., July 5, 1894.

It scattered its scorched leaves as if for seed from which should spring a town anew: they fell on good ground and a new town arose as if by magic.



View of burnt district from Cox Square, showing Old Elm planted 1760



Looking down Main Street from Wood Square, 1899.

(Negative by C. L. Perry)



Danforth's Falls.

shelter for themselves and what little stock had been saved, in vacant stores or parts of stores occupied by their more fortunate brothers in trade, who had escaped the flames.

New buildings were rapidly pushed to completion, Graves' block being the first to be finished for occupancy, the first store opened being appropriately named "The Phenix." The Lawrence building was finished for stores December 15, and the other buildings followed until we have today covering a part of the burnt district no less than fourteen brick and granite buildings, giving the town a business section hardly surpassed by towns of much larger size.

At the reconstruction which followed, the business men proved that, although almost stunned by the blow, they still had courage to go on and make the town better for having suffered.

Scarcely had daylight dawned when workmen commenced at the ruins, clearing away for foundations of new buildings, and the store-keepers rapidly found



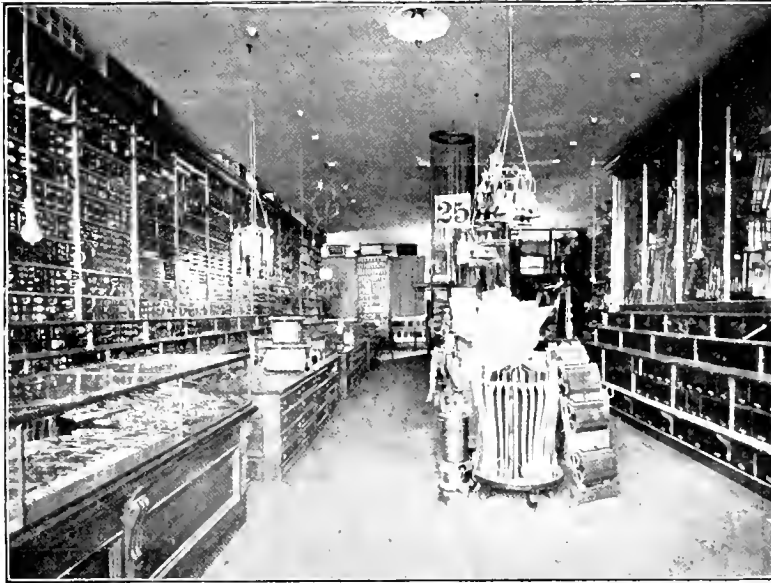
Post Office, and E. F. Worcester's News Room
Opened in new building Dec. 15, 1894. Negative by Perry

These buildings are heated by steam, piped for gas, and wired for electricity. All are equipped with modern conveniences. The stores, as a rule, are furnished with hard or fancy wood fixtures, many with metal ceilings, and carry stocks of goods sufficient to compete with surrounding towns as to selection and price.

The electric roads, looked upon by many as a detriment to smaller towns, have proved a help to our business men, and the balance of trade may be honestly stated as in Hudson's favor.

The young men of the town are in the majority as to ownership and management of local enterprises, and are thoroughly up to date.

The illustrations we are able to give of a few of the stores which are leaders in the lines they handle, denote well arranged stock and neat, attractive places. They show better than words can tell that their owners are alive to the fact that the "corner grocery" of long ago, while picturesque, is not in the line of twentieth century advancement, and that attractively displayed goods are half sold. City stores, while excelling



Hardware Store of J. H. & S. M. Robinson. (Negative by R. B. Lewis.)

in size, are not more progressive than our own, and purchasers are not obliged to seek the cities when in want of goods. Notwithstanding the nearness to Boston, and possibility of getting goods in the early afternoon when ordered in the morning, it is the custom of leading merchants to carry full assortments.



Looking North from Wood Square.

Negative by R. B. Lewis

When the new buildings were being built our merchants were busy with the making of up-to-date fixtures for their new stores, according to the latest ideas, and the matter of expense was not considered of as much importance as attractiveness and convenience. The result is pleasing to both customers and merchants, and goods are more easily handled, better displayed and more quickly sold, ensuring fresh stock and low prices, things not always possible before the fire, which, although a temporary impediment proved a blessing in disguise if we consider the general result.



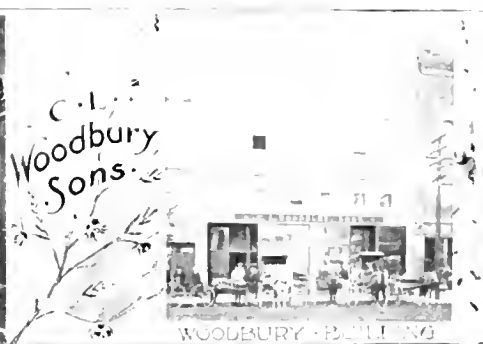
Dry Goods Store of Charles E. Brown. (Negative by R. B. Lewis)

We have lost, it is true, much of the simple beauty of a shaded country business street, with its old-fashioned stores and picturesque scenes. Some of our older business men, too, have dropped by the wayside, aged all too rapidly by the terrible experiences of the fire. Old landmarks have disappeared; but in their places has arisen a busy commercial section that is a credit to any locality. Others have stepped in to fill the vacant places, and new landmarks have been made which should stand for many years as monuments to the enterprise of our people.

The town has been well represented in important political offices in the state and nation, by State Representatives and Senators, National Representative, Governors' Council and leading committees, who have maintained the dignity of the town.



GROCERY DEPARTMENT



WOODBURY BUILDING



MEAT & PROVISION DEPARTMENT

Secret societies abound and brethren of nearly all orders can here clasp hands with fellow members. The best appointed halls are Odd Fellows' Hall in Lewis' Block, leased by Hudson Lodge, No. 154, and Masonic Hall in Savings Bank Block, leased by Doric Lodge, A. F. and A. M.



Tailoring and Men's Furnishing Establishment of Burkill Bros. (Negative by Lewis.)

Pythian Hall in Graves' Block, Grand Army Hall in Cochran Building, St. Jeans in Lawrence Building, and A. O. H. in the American House, are among the others.

The Riverside Association has a comfortable suite of rooms in the second story of Lawrence Building with a large membership among the young men of the town.

The ladies are conducting well organized clubs, having regular programs arranged for a complete season's work. The largest of these is the Hudson Woman's Club, having a membership of nearly one hundred and fifty, organized on broad, non-sectarian principles, and embracing in its membership ladies connected with every church society in town.

Social lines are not as closely drawn as in many places, and a cordial feeling exists among nearly all the organizations.

Several smaller literary and musical clubs hold regular sessions through the winter months, but many of these are allied with particular churches or societies. An alumni association has recently been formed among the graduates and past members of the high school.



Hudson
National
Bank
Lobby



Vaulting
Room
Roberts
Vault



Directors'
Room

An average of about \$15,000 is distributed weekly by the various manufactories in town which will shortly be greatly increased by the new industries promised.

Hudson offers to business men a town unexcelled in advantages for easy transportation of freight at low rates, building

sites for new industries at nominal figures, and a Board of Trade, ready to give proper assistance to any business concerns seeking a location for manufacturing.

It is situated on the extreme western edge of Middlesex County, twenty-eight miles from Boston, with a population of over five thousand. It is an attractive town naturally, and its shady streets, well kept lawns and modern houses make it attract more than ordinary attention from even a casual visitor.

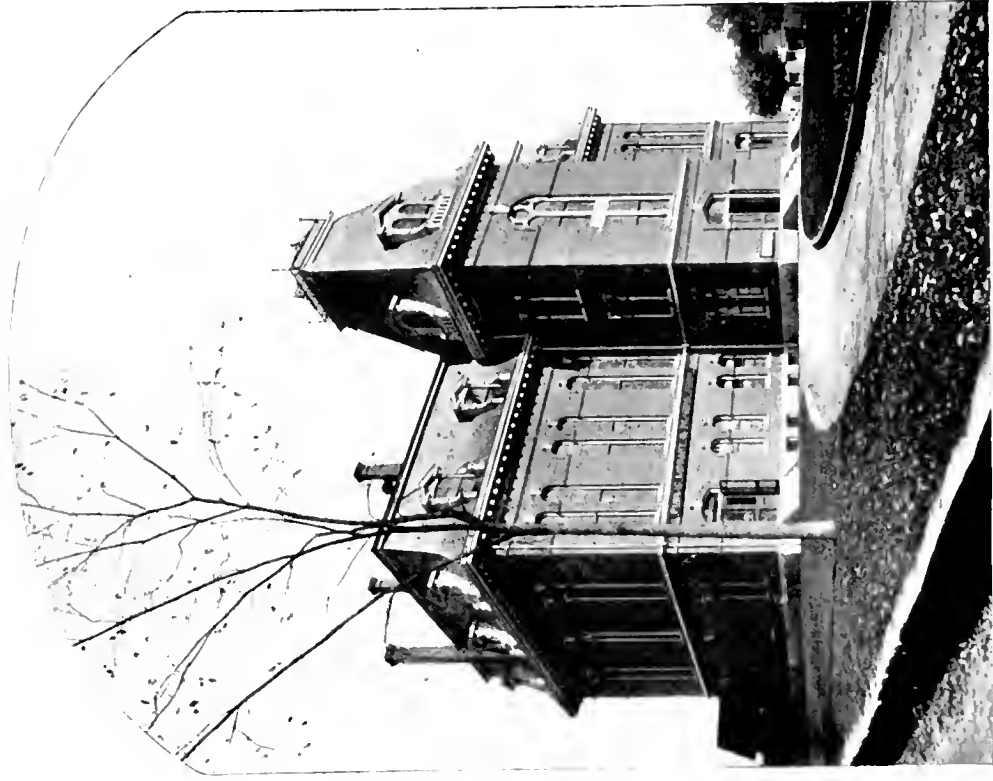
Not the least among the public buildings is the Town House, erected in 1872 at a total cost for building, site and grading, of nearly \$60,000. It is substantially built of brick, and was formally dedicated September 26, 1872. The first story is now occupied by the Public Library, offices of the various boards of town officers and the court room; the second floor contains the hall with a seating capacity of 800; while the upper



Savings Bank Block.

(Negative by Lewis.)

story, formerly used as Masonic apartments, is now the home of Co. M, 5th Regiment, M. V. M., and is comfortably arranged for their use. The building has been recently re-wired for electric lights.



The Town House

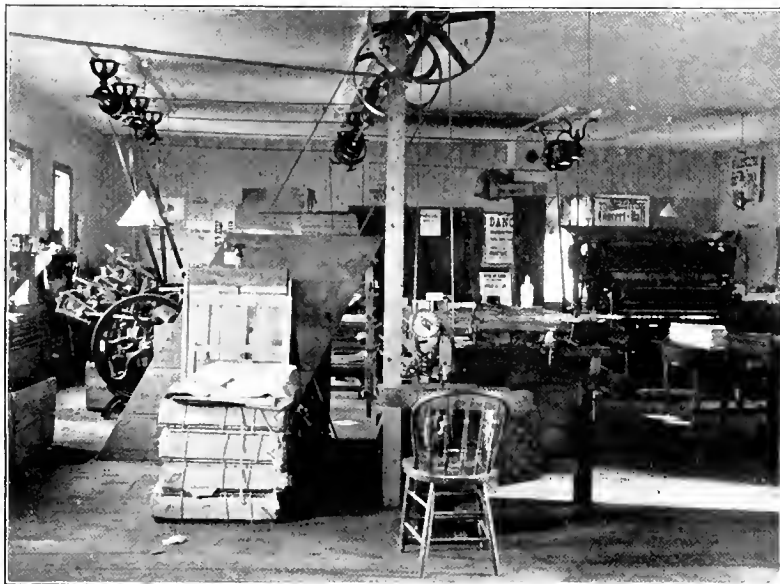
(Negative by Perry)



Fountain in former Houghton Park.

a free town library for the use of all the inhabitants of the town, and shall appropriate or otherwise secure the sum of \$500 to be devoted to that object, they may call upon me, my executors or administrators, for the like sum of \$500, to be expended in furtherance of that object." The town accepted the proposition, and voted the sum named; and with the \$1000 thus secured, and some other liberal donations, the library was opened in 1867. It has since been entirely supported by taxation, and is wholly free to all permanent or temporary residents of the town over twelve years of age.

THE Free Public Library of Hudson was founded in 1867, by a donation of \$500 from the Rev. Charles Hudson, after whom the town was named, who proposed in a letter to the town committee "If the town of Hudson, at a legal meeting called for that purpose, vote



A Section of Press Room of the Enterprise Printing Co. (Negative by C. L. Perry.)



The Hudson House. Looking up Main Street.

(Negative by Lewis.)

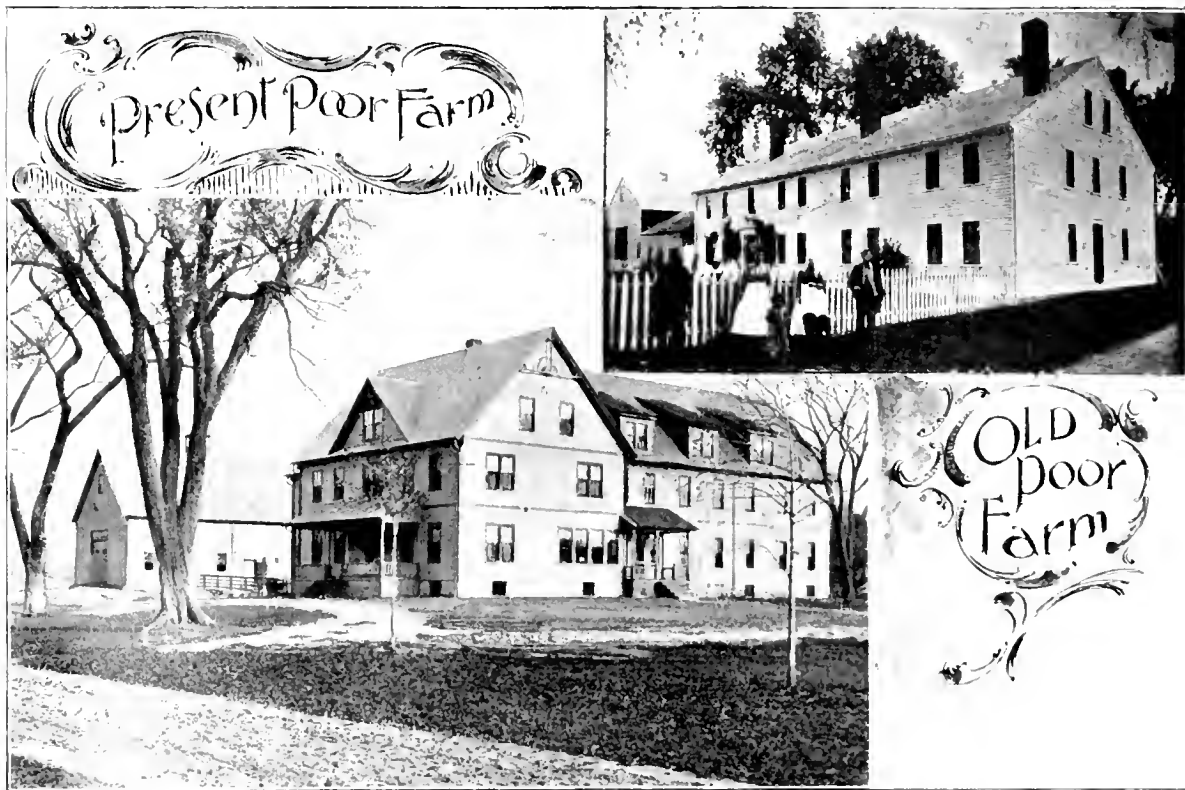
The card catalogue has been in use since 1892. In 1897 a finding list of the Juvenile and Fiction departments was printed. The library is now located in the town hall building, with a delivery and free reading room on the ground floor, and

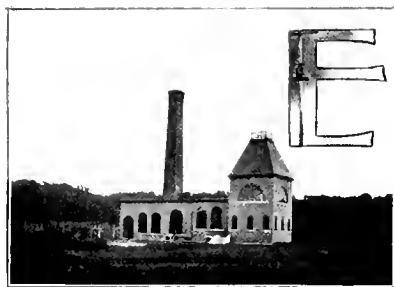


the stock room in the basement. Special cards are issued to teachers and members of literary clubs and students, by which a number of books may be taken at a time. Nearly all of the magazines and papers of the day are placed in the reading room. It is connected with the Massachusetts Library Art Club, by which loan exhibitions of different representative works of art are placed upon its walls each month in the year. The borrowers of books are largely young people and their wants are carefully considered.

The property owned by the town under direction of the Overseers of the Poor, lies in the east part of town. The building formerly occupied was one used by the parent town until Hudson's incorporation, purchased from the David Hunter estate. After this town was set apart, the building was used jointly by the two towns until July 1, 1866. The old building was occupied until its destruction by fire, Feb. 19, 1897. The present commodious buildings were built at an expense of \$10,000; furnishing, \$600.

The town annually appropriates \$5,000 for the poor and an average of about 14 are cared for at the farm; partial support, 192.





Electric Light Station.

ELECTRIC Lighting was first introduced in the town in 1885 by a company of citizens under title of The Hudson Electric Light Company, with power station in the factory of Bradley & Sayward. Street and commercial lighting was carried on by them until 1897 when the town purchased the plant, then consisting of a Ball 65-horse power engine, 1 Thomson-Houston 650 light alternator and 1 Thomson-Houston 30 light arc machine. To these have been added a Slater 125-horse power Corliss type engine, 1 D. M. Dillon 100-horse power boiler, and 1 1200 light general electric alternator, giving the town an equipment sufficiently large to meet the demands for lights for several years to come.

The plant is located in a brick power station specially constructed for its use on land purchased by the town, with a spur-track to the building from the Fitchburg railroad. It is furnishing 26 street arc lamps of nominally 2000-candle power, 110 25-candle power incandescent street lamps, and an average daily output of 650 lamps to nearly 150 customers.

In addition to this municipal light plant, there are several private dynamos in use in the various factories varying from 30 to 500 light capacity.

Upon the completion of the electric road from Clinton, the wires along Central and Main streets were all transferred to one set of new poles, combining the electric light, fire alarm and electric road wires, and doing away with many unsightly poles.

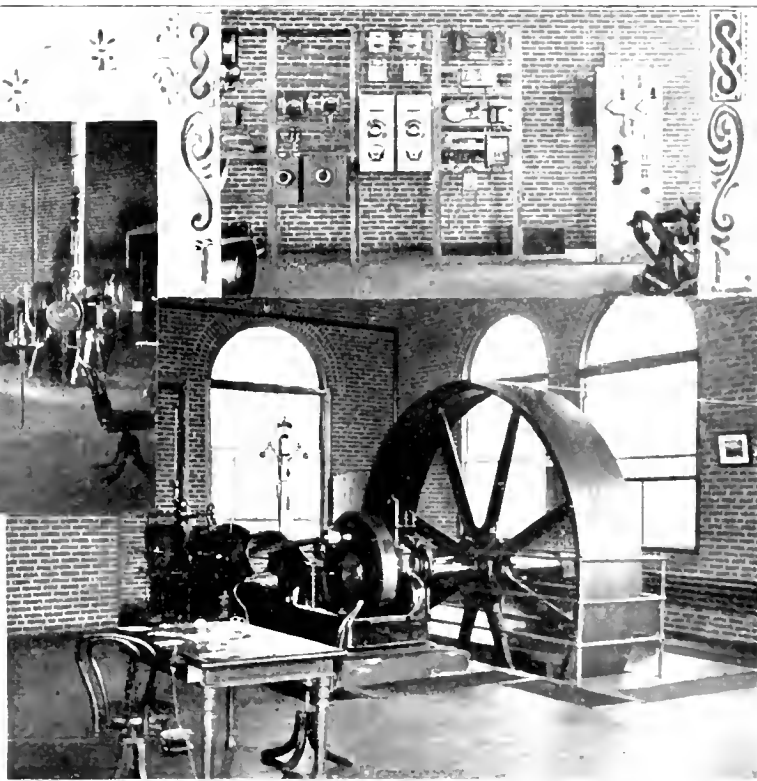
The house service of incandescent lights is kept up all night. Arrangements with the fire department are such that in case of an alarm at night, the street service is put on and continued for fifteen minutes after "all out" is sounded.

The plant can be operated during the day to supply power for light manufacturing purposes as soon as there is sufficient demand to guarantee the expense. No extra machinery is necessary, as the motors could be operated from the same machines which now furnish light.

Hudson boasts of being one of the few towns of its size operating a municipal light plant, and as its product is furnished at cost the rate bids fair to continue low, as the number of consumers is continually increasing.



INTERIOR of ELECTRIC
LIGHT STATION.





Fitchburg Railroad Station, 1874

FOR many years communication with Boston was by stage and team, a regular mail route being established in 1828. In 1847, the branch of the Fitchburg Railroad from South Acton was surveyed and completed to Hudson about 1851, the first station being a part of the present Houghton's factory. This branch was extended to Marlboro in 1853. The Massachusetts Central Railroad was first agitated soon after the incorporation of the town, but not finally completed until 1881. In 1883, it was reorganized, and in December of the same year was leased to the Boston & Maine Railroad Company.

The town is well accommodated for passenger and freight transportation, nine trains being run daily each way on the "Central" and eight on the Fitchburg. The running time to Boston has been reduced to about one hour.

Electric cars run regularly to Marlboro and a road is completed to Clinton, which will be in operation in the spring. Other lines are also in contemplation, which will make Hudson a centre for several lines.

Hudson has unusual facilities for easy transportation of freight to or from the principal cities. Houghton & Co.'s Boston express furnishes quick service from the "Hub," making three trips per day; and through freights are frequent, making good connection to all points.

The railroad stations are new and well arranged, the town being more fortunate in this respect than many of her neighboring localities.

The fare to Boston, originally over one dollar, has been gradually reduced until it is now but fifty-three cents; trip tickets reducing it still lower, and accommodations such as to enable business men to reach Boston in the morning and return in time for lunch at noon if necessary.



Old Fitchburg Railroad Bridge over the Assabet.



Fitchburg R.R. Station & Houghton
& Co. Boston Express Office

The town is well provided with churches, no less than seven denominations being represented. The oldest organized society is the Baptist, meetings having been held as early as 1844 in Cox's hall, and later in Manson's hall. Many services were also held at the homes of the members. Their first church, shown on this page, was built in 1851, and was finished in September. This served their purpose until the completion of the new church which stands on the site of the old one. The corner stone was laid December 2, 1875, and the church dedicated October 23, 1877.



The Baptist Church about 1875.

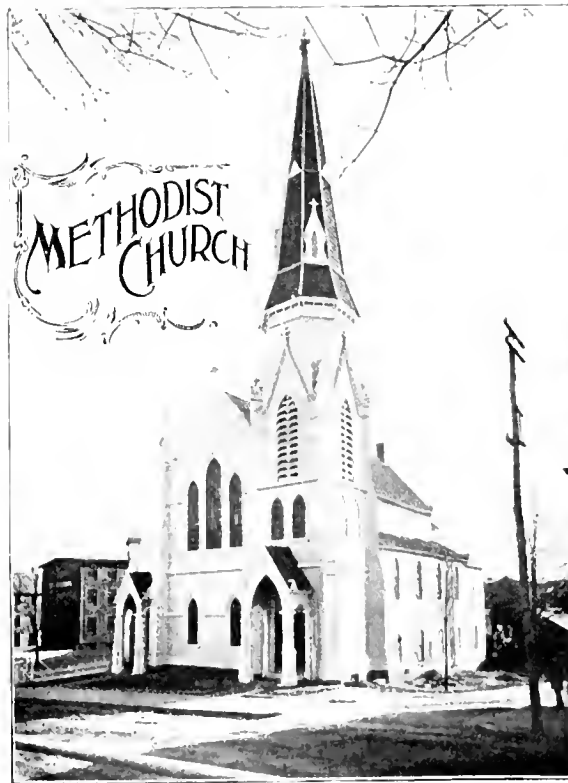
The church has recently had a large dining room finished off in the basement, and the whole building wired for electric lights.

The Unitarians met in the School Street School house, the hall being known as Freedom hall, in 1854. Many of those associated with this society in its early days had taken active part in the anti-slavery meetings, and had also held religious services in various halls in the village.

The present church building was started in 1860, the vestry of which was known as Union hall. Here many meetings of importance in our history were held, among them those regarding the incorporation of the town.

The audience room and suite of parlors are commodious and lighted by electricity. The society is an active one, several organizations being connected with it for assistance along social and benevolent lines. The building shows to good advantage at the corner of Main and Church streets.

A portion of the land on which the Tannery buildings had long stood was sold to the Methodist society in 1866. They had been holding meetings in Houghton's hall, the first sermon having been preached April 9, 1865. The foundation for the new edifice was laid in 1866. Thorough repairs have just been made, electric lights installed, and other improvements made.



The Catholic society was organized in 1869, and a church built the same year on Cross street. This society had a rapid growth. The fine new structure was commenced in 1889, and the corner stone laid August 25 of that year with an elaborate service. We are enabled to present a picture of the interior of this church, which gives a faint idea of its beauty. The old church now stands in the rear of the new one, and is used for a parish hall for entertainments and the like.



St. Michael's R. C. Church, Cross Street, 1889.

themselves. A friendly rivalry is kept up between them, the churches alternating annually in entertaining as special guests, upon Memorial Sunday, Reno Post, G. A. R., and its kindred societies. Some effort has been made to have these exercises held in Town Hall, and participated in by all the clergy jointly, instead of individually, as now.

Strangers in town will find a hearty welcome at any of the church services, and "seats free" is a welcome invitation.

In addition to these are the Congregational society, organized 1889, meeting in Temple Hall; St. Luke's Episcopal Mission in St. Luke's Hall, both in Chase block; and the First Church of Christ (Scientist) in Odd Fellows' Hall.

The Congregational society is planning to erect a church building in the near future, preparations for which have been under consideration for some time.

All denominations are active and their services well attended.

Considerable attention is paid by the various churches to their Sunday School departments, and to the auxiliary societies among the young people, upon which depends the future success of the churches



*Catholic
Church*

*UNITARIAN
CHURCH*





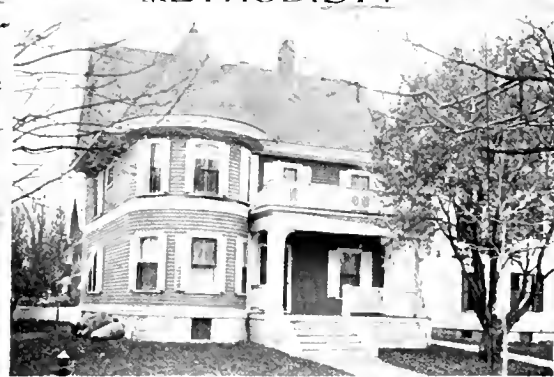
◊ UNITARIAN ◊



◊ METHODIST ◊



◊ CATHOLIC ◊



◊ BAPTIST ◊

A
GROUP
OF
PAR-
SON-
AGES



Interior of St. Michael's Catholic Church,
Maple Street.

(Negative from
Studio of C. L. Perry.)

The history of the school dates back to 1779, when the first school house was located in the easterly part of the town, another having been built in 1812, and the School street school-house in 1855. This house was built on the geographical centre of the village, the distance from each man's door yard being measured, in order to locate it centrally.



School Street School House.

Freedom Hall, so called, was in this building, and many of the anti-slavery meetings were held here, which gave it its name.

Many of our leading citizens, professional and laymen, have served on the school committee and have brought the schools to a high degree of excellence, which is in keeping with the advanced thought of the day.

From supplies furnished by the scholars for chemical and philosophical study, the high school has advanced to attaining a well arranged laboratory, and from a book case and a few books purchased by the proceeds of a lecture course, has grown a reference library with well stocked shelves. A business course has been added with stenography and type-writing, maintaining the excellent standing of the school.

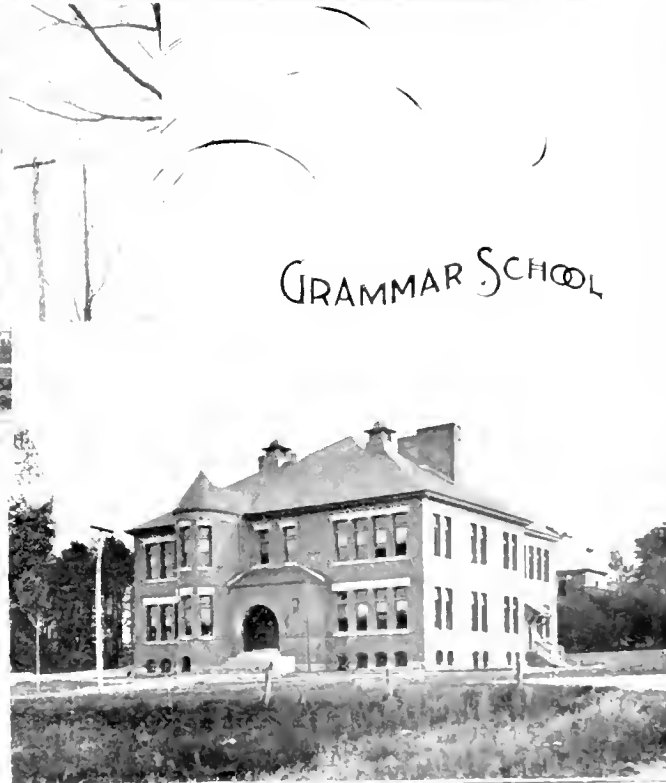
A Superintendent has charge of the schools under whom are twenty-eight teachers, with a family of one thousand and eighty scholars. The school-houses are all well heated and ventilated and have an excellent

corps of teachers, most of them graduates from leading colleges, normal and training schools.

The matter of school room decoration has been well looked after, material assistance having been given by the supervisors of drawing. Music is also looked after by a special instructor.



HIGH SCHOOL



GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Testing the Water Works.

THE reputation of our Fire Department among the firemen of New England, is of long standing, and many companies can testify to the hospitality of our fire fighters.

The history of the Fire Department dates from 1842, when on January 17, the first meeting was held, which resulted in the formation of the "Feltonville Engine Co." with a roll of twenty-one men. The first "engine" was of a most primitive character, having no suction hose, necessitating the use of pails to fill the "tub."

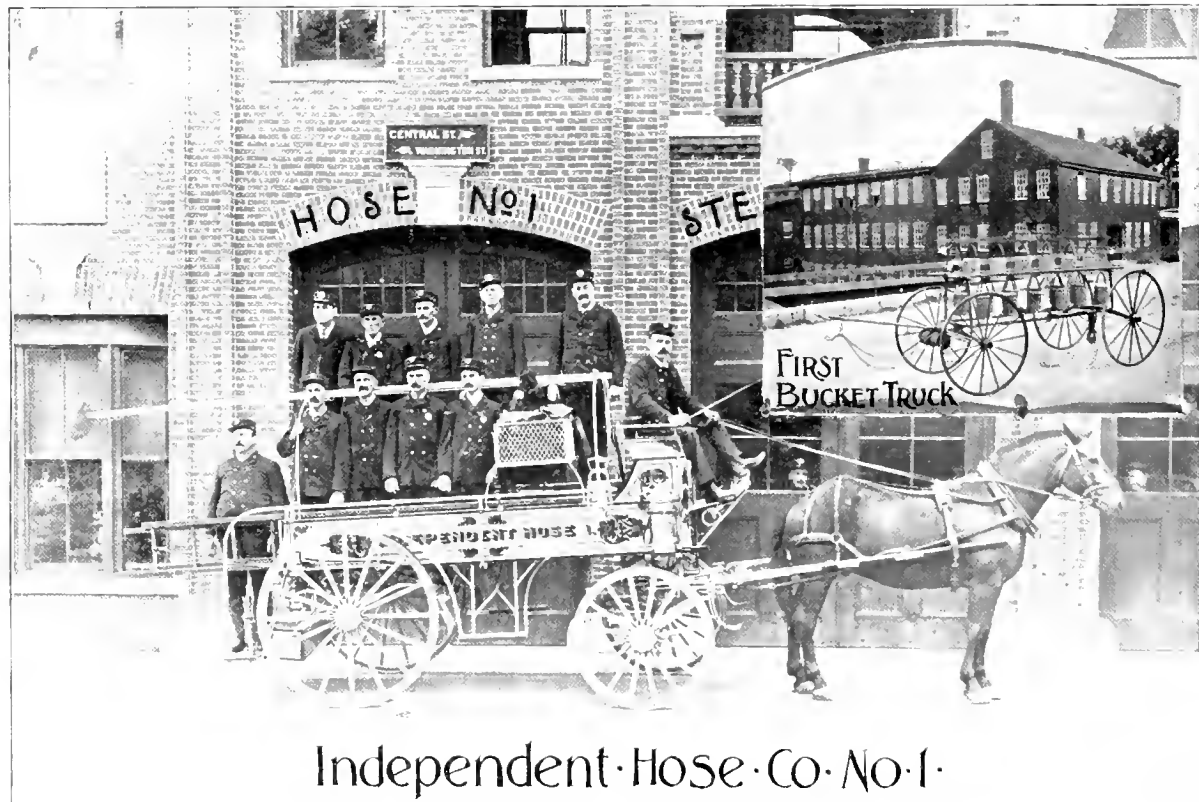
This company called to its ranks several men of prominence in the village, but held its organization only about a year. A new company was then organized, which existed until 1847. Two years later a new engine was procured, named Hydraulicon, No. 3, having many improvements over the other machine. This engine did good service at many fires.

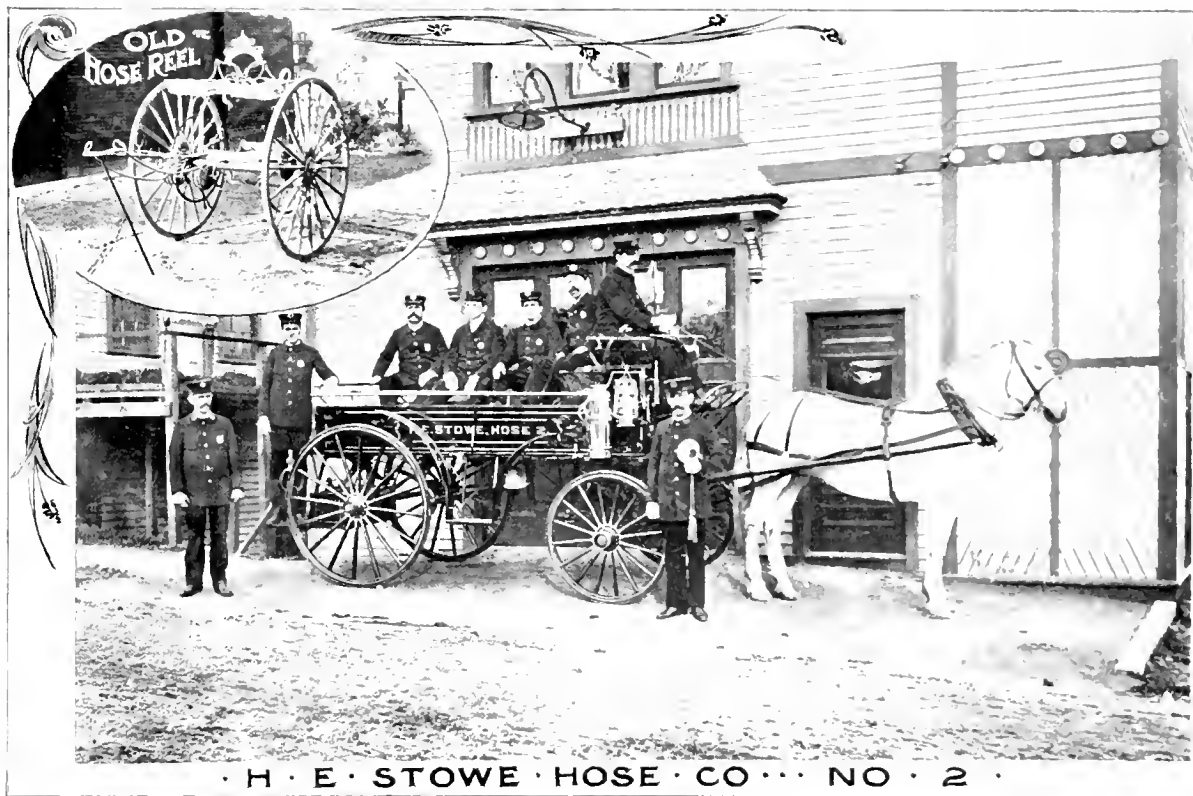
September 7, 1857, the company adopted the title of Eureka, a word which will recall, for many years to come, the name and fame of Hudson's popular fire engine company. It was not until May, 1872, however, that the engine was purchased which spread the company's reputation, and under its banner many prizes were won in competition at muster, the largest being \$1,000, which was won at Portland, Me., October 12, 1875, with a record of 229 feet, 1 1-2 inches. This stood as a world's record for many years.

The old engine was used by a company formed under the name of "Houghton No. 2," with rooms on Houghton street, in a building belonging to Butler, Dunn & Co. The bell now hanging in the tower of the Central Fire Station was formerly on this building, and has an interesting story connected which briefly is as follows:

The "Houghton No. 2" was accepted as a regular company by the town in 1873, and a bell was purchased by popular subscription. It however did not prove satisfactory and was exchanged for a new one, the balance being paid from the company's treasury. The company had an article in the town warrant in 1874, regarding the purchase of a new engine, but

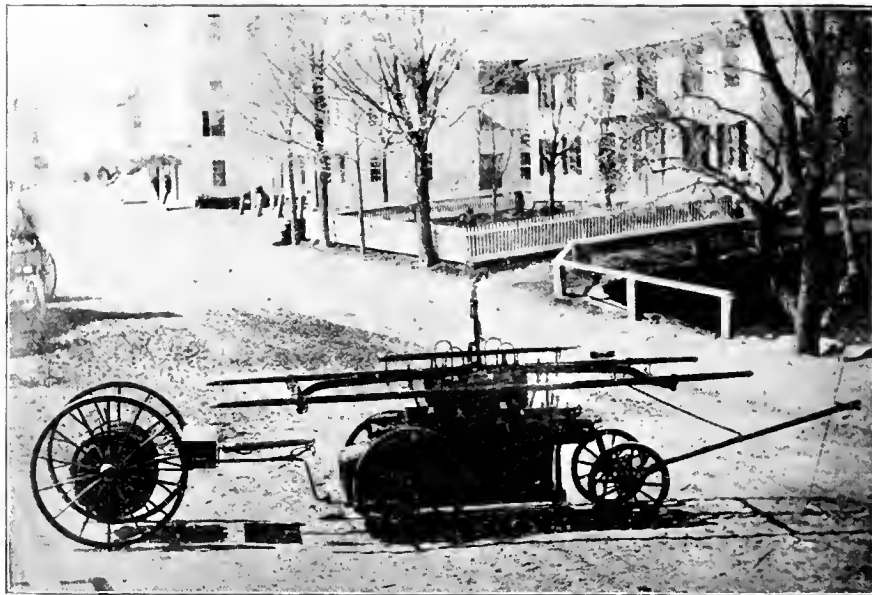






· H · E · STOWE · HOSE · CO · · NO · 2 ·

the subject matter was passed over. The following year the same article appeared and was voted down, upon which the company promptly disbanded, and Fast Day, 1875, the bell, under direction of the foreman, was removed. During the operation, however, a legal notice was served by counsel for the town, intended to prevent its removal, but without the desired effect, as the bell came down and that same evening was "spirited" away.



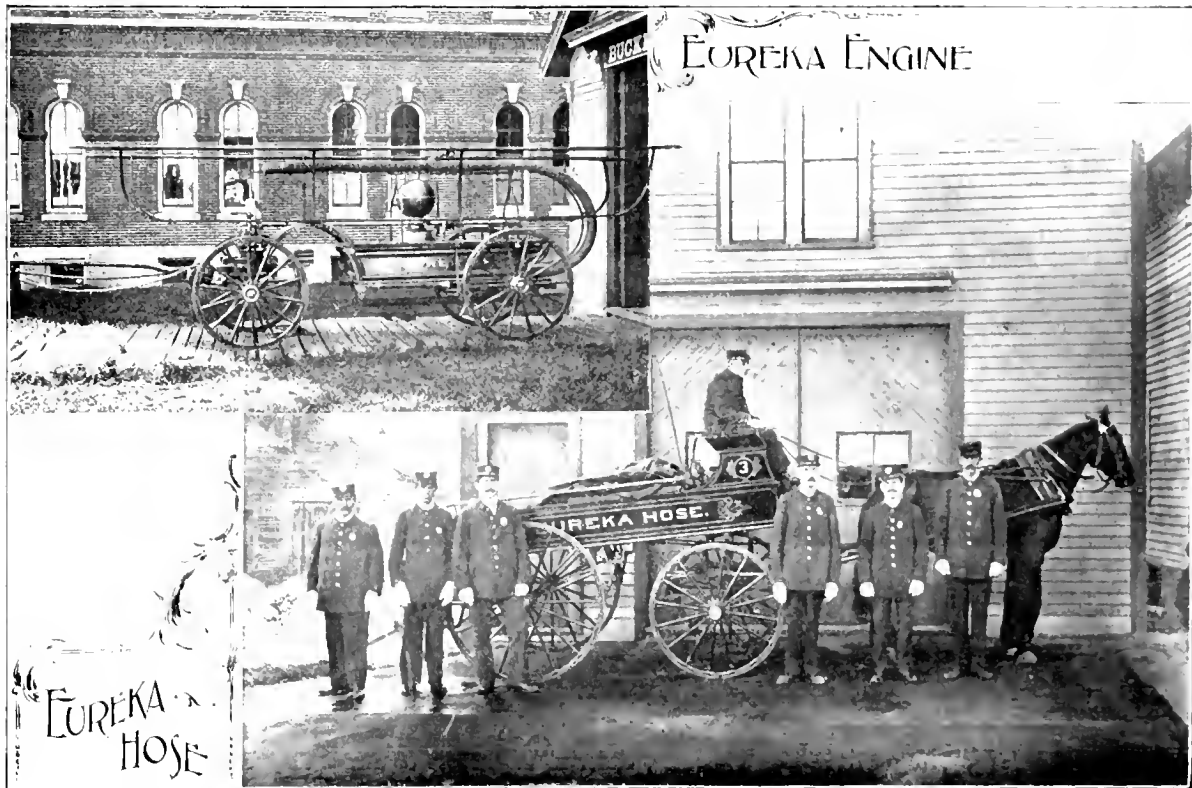
Hydraulic No. 3

Purchased 1849.

Its hiding place was long kept a secret until after the building of the Felton street Fire Station, when it as mysteriously reappeared and was hung in that belfry. Here it remained until the great fire, which destroyed the building. Fate had better luck in store than destruction by fire, and it fell unharmed, to be rehung in its present location on the completion of the Central Fire Station.

Several severe fires have visited the town previous to the great fire of 1894, among them the Piano Factory of Kaler & Shaw, which occurred July 4, 1874, the Hudson House and long wooden block, a

part of which still stands, in 1880; F. Brigham & Co.'s Brick Factory in 1882, and a fire which threatened to do much damage at the Tannery of Dunn, Green & Co., in 1885.



A Bucket H. & L. Company was organized among the young men, who used a light skeleton truck which carried a few buckets. Afterwards a new truck was purchased, carrying ladders and buckets.

This company proved of great assistance at several fires, as the absence of a water works system compelled carrying water in buckets, often from quite a long distance.

The most severe fire was the great fire of 1844, the loss amounting to fully a half million dollars, an account of which is given elsewhere in this sketch.

The present department, under the direction of a board of three engineers, is:

Independent Hose Company, No. 1 — 12 men,

Relief Hook & Ladder Company, No. 1 — 18 men,

Steamer No. 1 — 3 men,

with quarters at the Central Fire Station.

H. E. Stowe Hose Company, No. 2 — 10 men,

with Hose House on High street.

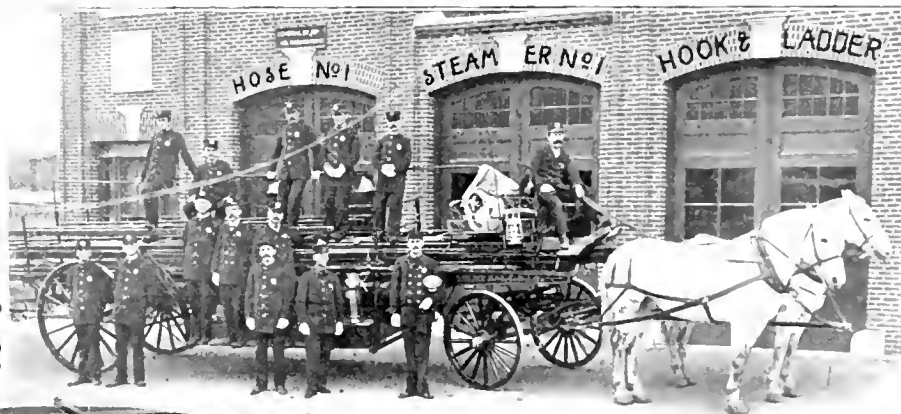
Eureka Hose Company, No. 3 — 10 men,

with Hose House on Washington street.

The department is well equipped, with two extra hose wagons in reserve for supply wagons, also a hook and ladder truck, formerly used by Relief No. 1.

An electric fire alarm is in operation with fifteen boxes, a bell alarm on Central Fire Station and steam whistle on the Tannery. Horses are provided for all regular apparatus, either in the houses or within easy call, and with a waterworks system of one hundred and thirty-seven hydrants, a reliable fire service is provided.

OLD BUCKET
H.S.L. TRUCK



RELIEF H.S.L. CO.

The shoe business is in a flourishing condition, the present daily output of shoes reaching nearly twelve thousand pairs. Two hundred hides are daily handled by the tannery of Dunn, Green & Co., and their reputation for the grades of leather produced is of the best. The Apsley Rubber Co. is producing a large quantity of rubber clothing, varying in quality

from the cheaper garments to high-priced mackintoshes, in single and double texture. The work of coating the cloth with the waterproof compound is done by them, as well as the cutting and making of the garments. Nothing but the best of Para rubber is used, and the high standard of their goods is maintained.

The woolen industry is comparatively young in town, but already nearly fifty thousand pounds are scoured, carded and combed weekly, with the mill running night and day to keep up with orders.

Shoe machinery, wool spinning, elastic gore weaving, last making, paper and wood box factories, and printing offices are among the other industries, all of which are busy.

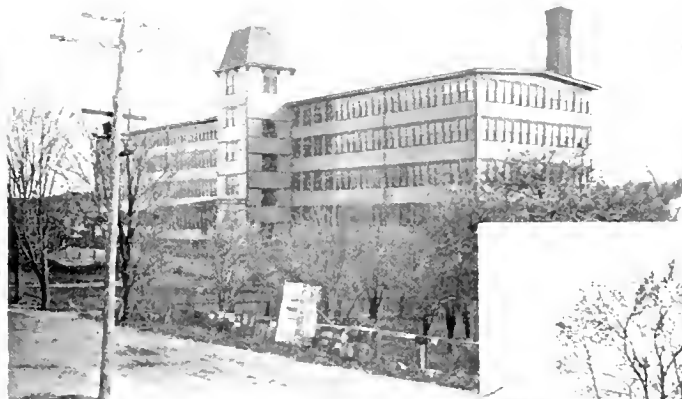
Three weekly newspapers are published in town.

Contracts have recently been signed by the Apsley Rubber Company, for land and

machinery for a rubber boot and shoe factory, which it is expected will be in operation early in the spring on an extensive scale.



Main Factory Apsley Rubber Co.



· F · BRIGHAM & CO · FACTORY ·



· STOWE · BILLS & HAWLEY · FACTORY ·



• THE WORCESTER HOUSE •



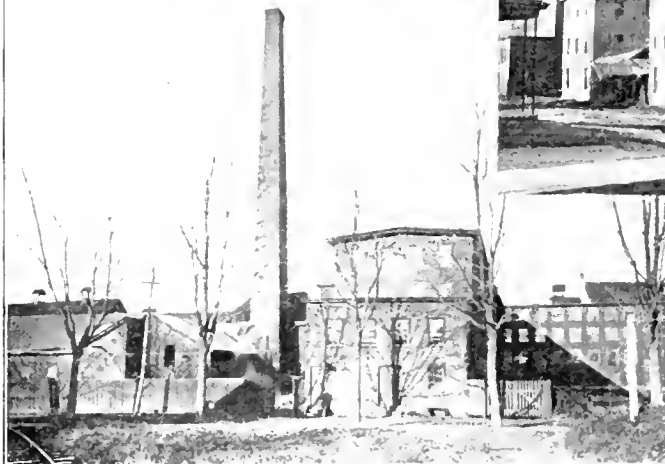
RESIDENCE OF C. M. HOUGHTON •



• THE FAIRBANKS HOUSE •



• THE HAPGOOD HOUSE •



BRADLEY &
SAYWARD SHOE CO.



· TANNERY of DUNN · GREEN & CO ·



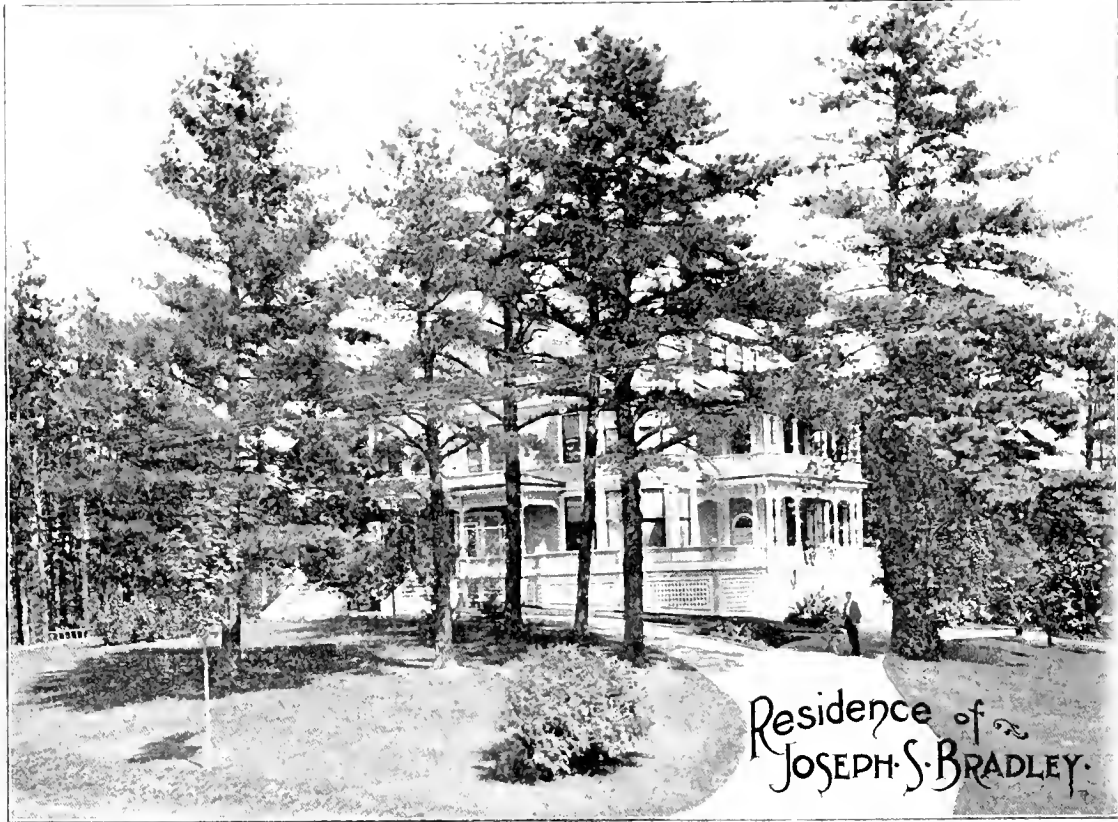
C·M·BRETT & CO.
· SHOE FACTORY ·



· L · T · JEFFS ' SHOE FACTORY ·



Residence of Edmund M. Stowe



Residence of
JOSEPH S. BRADLEY.



Residence of
HON. W. H. BRIGHAM.



· RESIDENCE & UNDERTAKING ROOMS OF L. P. ELLITHORPE ·



· RESIDENCE OF OLIVER SAWYER ·



· RESIDENCE OF NATHAN RUSSELL ·



· RESIDENCE OF O. H. MOORE ·



Residence of R. B. Lewis.

The future of the town is very promising, and a healthy boom is already "on." A large amount of building is in contemplation and the coming spring bids fair to see all previous building records beaten.

Hudson has made a record of which she is proud — a record which is the result of individual effort on the part of many of her citizens, and the good words spoken of her by all her children. May this lead to higher achievements and make her

The houses are nearly all substantially built, and much attention is given to the care of lawns and grounds. Shade trees line the sidewalks, and ornamental shrubs and trees adorn the lawns. Fences are rapidly disappearing from front and boundary lines, and concrete sidewalks are on the principal streets.

Our illustrations of residences show samples of houses, both those of men of moderate means as well as some of our best mansions, only a few of which are here given.



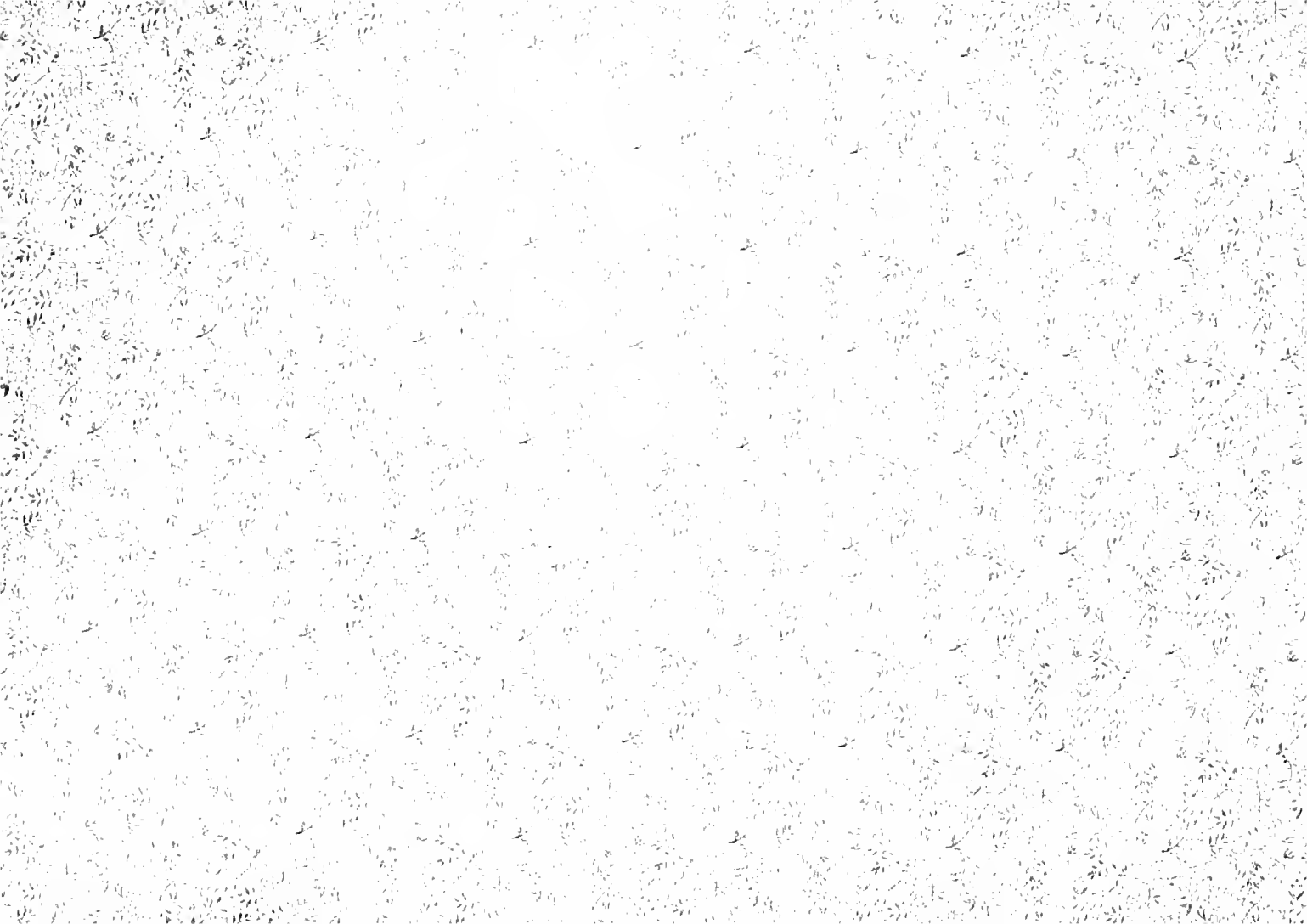
Residence of H. M. Courtenaiche.

future, in reality, as bright as the prospect now appears. To do this the efforts of every citizen can be a factor in the general result. Let our acts be for the good of the town, remembering with the Persian poet of old :

“The moving finger writes : and having writ,
Moves on : nor all your Piety, nor Wit,
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,
Nor all your Tears wash out a Word of it.”



(Half-Tones and Artistic Grouping by The Boston Engraving Co.)
(Binding by R. Burlen, Boston.)





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